

Lions of Georgia



PLEASE – Presidents/Secretaries = send in the name of your Club and the Name and Email address only of all club members who have DSL so we can send the StateMag to each of those members. Send to edmcionh@bellsouth.net or lionga@bellsouth.net



State News



Council received reports or comments as follows:

PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT – LION JAMES E. “JIM” ERVIN:

PIP Jim Ervin welcomed Lion PID Steve and Cindy Glass for coming to share with the Lions of Georgia this weekend. PIP Ervin stated that he hoped the District Governors feel that they have left their districts better than they found them when they began the year; that they have in some way, throughout this year, helped to prepare the District Governor Elect to build on the good that has taken place in their district this year and prepared for better things for each District and throughout the state next year.

He stated that the Council needs to decide what the Multiple District will do, through Cathy’s coordination and leadership, for our centennial celebration. He pointed out that we need to be prepared for the Lions of Georgia to know all the things we are doing plus what we have done through the years; we need to prepare and share with the people of Georgia not only what we have done but what we will do in the future for our communities.

He reminded District Governors Elect that even though current ID Kembra Smith or himself might help to obtain a speaker for the District Convention, an official speaker request form must be filled out with LCI. PIP Ervin pointed out that Dr. Yamada has selected Savannah for his Board Meeting. Beginning at the first Council Meeting, there has been a committee headed up by PDG Chris Barbieri, the Council and others will be very much involved in decisions made as to how we will handle the host night. There will be fund raising needed to cover some of the expenses involved. He pointed out that it is a great honor to be selected to host the Board Meeting, and the Multiple District will want to be sure that they handle this function in such a way that the Board will be glad they made the decision to come to Savannah.

District Governors were advised that after this meeting he will give each Governor two International Presidents Certificates of Appreciation, so that they can recognize two Lions in their District for outstanding service. He thanked Lions for what they are doing and offered his help in any way possible.

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – LION STEPHEN GLASS:

PID Glass thanked all leaders in Georgia for helping the Association grow. He described being a Past District Governor as being forever. When you are a District Governor it is like two finite points in time, from July through June. But a Past District Governor is forever. He stated that a PDG has so much to offer that was never thought about as a DG. Keep moving forward.

PID Glass discussed the Ethics program mentioned earlier. He stated that the Association has been very tuned in over the last several years to our behavior as Lions, and our behavior as Clubs across this Association. PIP Madden appointed a committee known as the Ethical Governance and Compliance Working Group representing all

of the Constitutional areas of our association. They came together with a list of 34 recommendations to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Most of those were adopted. A lot of those focused on ethical behavior as a Lion. How we treat one another; are we respectful of others ideas. How do we perceive women in leadership roles? How do we perceive the public’s perception of us? Some members of the public were interviewed and they would like to see us publish a financial statement, much like a bank does, or much like any lender does, showing how we spend the money they help us raise for activities.

He discussed the Elections Compliance Task Force which he and PID Townsend served on. This resulted in a new Standard District Constitution and By-Laws which will become a part of our Association when you vote on it. A requirement on the ballot, when you are a delegate, in Honolulu, requiring the payment of club dues at least 15 days before the close of certification at the District or Multiple District Convention, in order to be eligible to vote. LCI has totally revised the DG reimbursement policy. DGs will have more latitude in how the budget is spent going forward.

PID Glass discussed the difference between the Club Excellence Process and the Club Excellence Award. One is a process and one is recognition. The Board has changed the name of the Club Excellence Process to Club Quality Initiative.

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – LION HAYNES TOWNSEND:

PID Haynes Townsend thanked the Lions of Georgia for their well wishes, and prayers during his recovery. He welcomed Steve and Cindy to Georgia. PID Townsend thanked PCC Richard Brown and PDG Jane Price for the hard work they put into bidding on the 2020 Convention. He stated that some work has begun on the Forum this year and he has been working with PCC Mark Miller on this. PID Townsend stated that he hopes everyone will march in the parade during the Hawaii International Convention. He will be announcing the parade again this year. He stated it was a pleasure to be in attendance this weekend and offered his help in any way possible during the coming year. CC Newby thanked PI

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – W. MYERS BANISTER:

PID Banister commended the Council for the work done this year. He stated he was glad to see PID Haynes Townsend back and in better health.

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – DR. JOHN PEARCE:

. Pearce stated that PID Dr. Beverly Roberts will be at the Convention on Friday. He stated that he and Dr. Roberts will be happy to head up the Ethics Committee in the state. He stated that they will need to know each District’s Committee Member.

REPORT OF COUNCIL SECRETARY and STATE CONVENTION – LION BONNIE KELLY, DG 18-0:

DG Kelly asked for approval of the January 31st Council of Governors Meeting Minutes. DG Andrews, 18-L, made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 31, 2015 Council Meeting as printed; motion seconded by DG Hubbard, 18-I, and motion carried. A. DG Kelly asked if there was any old business that needed to come before the Council.

(1) CC Newby discussed the 2014-15 Towels. The towels are not yet available. The Manufacturer this year has not forwarded the towels

although the payment was made in February. PIP Tam has become involved in a resolution to this situation, and it is hoped that the towels will be here as soon as next week.

(2) Pins for 2016 have been discussed and designs worked on by the State Pin Traders Committee. Proposed designs were passed around, and the Incoming Council will discuss this during their Organizational Meeting this afternoon.

(3) State Ethics Program. CC Newby stated that each folder contains a packet of papers concerning the Ethics Program. CC Newby stated that during the pre-council meeting last evening he had asked Council to consider appointing PID Beverly Roberts and PID John Pearce to serve as State Chairs on the program. Lion Vicki Hubbard, DG 18-I, made a motion that the Ethics Program for the State of Georgia be approved and that PID Beverly Roberts and PID John Pearce be appointed to head up the committee. Lion Bonnie Kelly, DG 18-O, seconded the motion and motion carried. CC Newby asked Incoming Governors to work with their present DG to appoint someone to serve on the Ethics Committee.

B. DG Kelly called attention to a State Office report in each file.

STATE CONVENTION

A. PDG Georgia Taylor stated that everything is ready for the Tifton Convention this weekend. The Council, State Officers and First and Second District Governors are invited this evening to the dinner being held in the Tift area Conference Center at 6:30 PM, and is being paid for by the Tourism Center of Tifton. The incoming District Governors will have a dramatic performance for the group. (1) Lion Taylor reminded each DG to have their Cabinet Secretary available at the registration table beginning tomorrow at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. They should be available around 8:00 AM. A Delegate Registration status of clubs from LCI was sent to each DG by CC Olin Newby. He has additional copies if these are needed.

(2) There will be entertainment on Saturday evening which is not on the program. There will be a DJ who will play music. PDG Taylor pointed out that this DJ got his first pair of glasses from the Lions Club. It will be a different and fun time.

(3) CC Newby stated that the Awards committee comes in two days early to judge awards. DG Hubbard, 18-I, made a motion that Council pay \$200.00 as a reimbursement to each State Awards Committee Member toward their expenses for the two days they judge awards prior to the Convention; motion seconded by DG Kelly, 18-O, and motion carried.

B. Callaway Gardens Convention in 2016 is ready to go. The Committee met with Callaway last week and will have registration forms for those who would like to register for the convention next year at this convention. Convention is set for June 3-5. Registration at this convention will be \$95.00. Price will increase after this convention. In addition, anyone attending the convention and **not** buying a hospitality book will have to pay a \$50.00 registration fee. **C.** Bids are needed for the 2017 convention. Jekyll Island is cost prohibitive and the committee was not able to get a club to say they would host it. CC Newby asked that the districts seek out a place to host the 2017 convention and find a host club.

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CHAIR – LION CHIP NEDZA, DG 18-N:

DG Nedza stated that the Georgia Jamboree is set for 6:00 to 10:00 PM on Sunday of the Convention. The same entertainment from Toronto will perform in Hawaii. He has purchased 2400 bags of peanuts and the DGEs will take these to the convention. He has ordered Georgia Flags for all participants to carry in the parade. Red Parade Shirt will be the uniform for the parade, along with black pants. Tickets for the June 29th Southeastern Breakfast are available.

Breakfast will be held at 7:00 AM at the Sheraton Waikiki in Honolulu. \$55.00 per ticket.

A. 2020 Atlanta International Convention Bid: PCC Richard Brown presented a printed report to Council as follows: It is with deep disappointment that I must report to you that Atlanta, Georgia, and the entire South will not be hosting the International Convention in 2020. My understanding is that the City of Singapore and Malaysia will be the Host city in 2020. It is also my understanding that along with our presentation to the Site Committee, that Atlanta was probably the second in line of six (6) cities that submitted bids to be the Host city. I personally feel that our submittal was exceptional. I know and I think that those on our committee would echo my sentiments. Atlanta's hotels and facilities are world-class and we showed that during the Site visit on March 25-27, 2015. It just wasn't to be for 2020. Should any of you desire additional information, please feel free to visit with me this weekend. The six cities who bid on the Convention were: Boston, St. Louis, Detroit, Melbourne Australia, and Singapore and Atlanta. DG Hubbard, 18-I, thanked Lion Richard Brown, on behalf of the Council, for all his efforts in submitting a bid for the convention. PIP Ervin pointed out that the government of Malaysia gave LCI 2 ½ million dollars to host the convention there. He stated that PCC Brown did an outstanding job on the proposal and thanked him for his work.

REPORT OF MD 18 LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR – LION PDG MARK RICE:

PDG Mark Rice stated that the survey results were distributed to the Governors for their action. He stated he looks forward to working with the incoming council next year and asked that they utilize this committee.

REPORT OF MD 18 CHAIR, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – LION C. MARK MILLER, PCC:

PCC Miller discussed Constitution and By-Laws. He stated that as a member of that committee he plans to get something rolling on actually amending our constitution which is still a little antiquated and shows six districts and there are four.

REPORT OF STATE MAGAZINE EDITOR AND MD 18 LCIF CHAIR – LION ED HASHBARGER, PDG:

Lion Hashbarger stated that Pam Schloemer, MD 18 Leader Dog Representative, will not be at the convention until Saturday morning. He encouraged everyone to support the upcoming Braves Game for Leader Dogs. Lion Hashbarger stated that Lion Bill Graham, Toccoa, will become the new Leader Dog Representative for MD 18.

He distributed a report on LCIF to each Governor. Donations are at \$72,000.00 which is \$10,000.00 less than last year at this time. He reported that MD 18 received grants for the Miracle Field in Covington (\$75,000.00) and to the Lighthouse (\$75,000.00) for equipment. He asked Governors Elect to try to get 100% participation by all clubs in donations to LCIF, Leader Dogs, Lighthouse, and Camp.

REPORT OF STATE LION TAMER AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CHAIR – LION RICK MIZELL, PDG:

The Lion Tamer store is available this year. There are plenty of Parade Shirts so if anyone is going to Hawaii they should get their shirt at this convention. He stated he has sent in the application to have the website recognized at LCI.

REPORT OF MD 18 CENTENNIAL CHAIR – LION PDG

CATHY THREATT: PDG Threatt reported that Clubs are getting better at recording their progress toward the Centennial

program. She stated that there was a webinar attended by about 26. A lot of conversation and ideas and a lot of information are coming out with things they are going to be planning. One of the things is a mini movie or video and your club can submit your own video about what Lionism is to you and history of your club and it can be included in the documentary. She pointed out that the District Governors and the two VDGs will become members of PDG Cathy's committee for the state. She pointed out that the training information so that information can be carried back to the clubs will be held on Saturday afternoon.

REPORT OF STATE HISTORIAN – LION CHIP NEDZA:

DG Nedza stated that the State Historian has a file on every club in Georgia, past or present. He stated that the state court clerk's offices have a copy of every newspaper in the town. He is working to get a newspaper clipping of when each club was chartered and the charter night.

REPORT OF MD 18 LIONS BAND CHAIR – LION LESLIE MILLER, 2ND VDG, 18-L:

Lion Miller stated that she has received little response to the information she has sent out on the proposed scholarship for \$2500.00. She recommended that the project be dropped. DG Bonnie Kelly, 18-O, made a motion that the Band Program be terminated. Lion Garner Andrews, 18-L seconded the motion and motion carried. Lion Miller recommended that any band items be sold by the LT. The museum could house at least one of each item representing the Georgia Lions All State Band.

REPORT ON DIABETES AWARENESS:

CC Newby stated that Lion Max Gallman is working with the ADA in Atlanta and they would like to know when Lions Clubs are holding a screening. There might be an opportunity for the ADA to distribute material and other information concerning diabetes. They have received a grant and want to share this with the Lions of Georgia. DG Garner Andrews would also like for the Lions Clubs to work with the ADA when the ADA holds screening by holding an eye screening.

Old Business:

A. US Blind Golf Association. DG Andrews stated that the tournament will be held on August 17 and 18. There are some events being held on the 16th...a children's clinic and they would like anyone close enough to get to the Marietta Country Club to have them participate. They also would like to have as many volunteers as possible. They also need sponsorships from the Lions Clubs or help in finding corporate sponsors.

New Business:

A. When LCI VP Yamada was in Savannah to work on plans for the International Board Meeting. PDG Chris Barbieri had expenses of \$765.51 connected to this dignitary's visit. Motion made by DG Kelly to reimburse Lion Barbieri for these expenses. Motion seconded by DG Hubbard and motion carried.

B. DG Andrews stated that the Council has discussed using online registration for conventions and using the state website for a registration page and for accepting money. He stated that he would work with Lion Rick Mizell and make sure a suitable proposal is available for the next Council. Online registration could be used for other purposes also.

C. PIP Jim Ervin reminded Governors that when they present Certificates of Appreciation, whether at the Convention Breakfasts or at another time, the names be sent in to the State Office so that they can be added to the International Awards List.

D. DG Kelly, 18-O discussed a letter from PIP Barry Palmer asking clubs to consider making donations to LCIF within the next three months. Governors were encouraged to take this information back to their clubs after the convention and encourage them to donate to LCIF.

E. State Chair for the Ethics Program was discussed. Since Dr. Beverly Roberts and Dr. John Pearce have agreed to head up the committee, they could serve as Co-Chairs for the State.

MINUTES 2015-2016 COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Election of Council Chair. DGE 18-I, Anne Mundy, made a motion that Council Elect forego the ballot voting for Council Chair; DGE 18-N, Larry Varnadoe, seconded the motion and motion carried. DGE Anne Mundy, 18-I, made a motion that Council Elect unanimously elect Lion PDG Paul May to serve as Council Chair for the year 2015-2016. DGE Fred Carlson, 18-L, seconded the motion and motion carried.

Council Chair Newby turned the meeting over to Council Chair Elect Paul May. Lion May thanked the Governors Elect and stated he looks forward to working with the Council next year.

Council Officers for 2015-2016 were discussed. On a Motion by DGE Fred Carlson, 18-L and seconded by DGE Hannah Flynn, 18-O, the following Officers were elected:

Council Vice-Chair: Anne Mundy
Council Secretary: Hannah Flynn
Council Treasurer: Fred Carlson
Council State Convention Chair: Hannah Flynn
Council International Convention Chair: Fred Carlson
Council Special Projects Chair: Larry Varnadoe

Council Elect discussed Council Meeting dates and Council Elect voted to schedule meetings as follows:

August 22, 2015	Callaway Gardens
November 7, 2015	joint with Camp and Lighthouse – Warner Robins
February 6, 2016	joint with Camp and Lighthouse – Warner Robins
April 16, 2016	(Council will decide if this meeting is needed)
June 2, 2016	Callaway Gardens in conjunction with the State Convention

Joint meetings with Camp and Lighthouse were discussed. Suggestion was made that Council meet in the morning; have a Lighthouse Board meeting during a luncheon, followed by the Camp Board Meeting in the afternoon. If the Camp needs to have committee meetings, they could schedule them on Friday afternoon or Sunday morning. CCE May suggested that the Lighthouse and Camp be contacted and told that the Council will meet at 9:00 AM. If they choose not to sponsor a luncheon, everyone could be on their own for the meal, then have the two board meetings in the afternoon.

District Conventions:

District 18-L March 18-19, 2016
District 18-I March 4-5, 2016
District 18-O February 26-27
District 18-N March 11-12, 2016

The following two items that were approved by the DGEs after their organizational meeting:

1. The DGEs approved a request from PCC Richard Brown and PIP Jim Ervin to authorize PCC Richard Brown and his committee to work on and present a proposal to Lions Clubs International for MD18 to offer Atlanta, Georgia as the host city for the 2021 International Convention.
2. The DGEs approved a request from PCC Mark Miller, MD18 GMT Coordinator, and PDG Jane Price, MD18 GLT Coordinator, for three Zone Chair training programs to be held in August with the locations and times to be determined:

1. One in the southern part of the state to be organized by DGE's Larry Varnadoe and Hannah Flynn
2. One in the northern part of the state to be organized by DGE's Fred Carlson and Anne Mundy
3. One to be held after the first COG meeting on Aug. 22 at Callaway Gardens.



Fred Carlson
DISTRICT "L"

East Cobb Lions Club

Past Year in review – how is your club doing?

August 29, 2014 - Georgia Rib Co has closed and Parvez is searching for a new location. At soon as he settles down and reopens, he will contact us. In the meantime, our regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings will be held at 7 p.m. at Powers Ferry UMC site of our annual pancake breakfast. The address is 245 Powers Ferry Rd SE 30067. Programs are scheduled for all of our upcoming meetings. Lion Ed Ressler has a special evening planned for Sept 23.

October 8 - Just wanted to let you know the countdown for our East Cobb Lions Club annual spaghetti dinner and our first ever car & cycle show is only 10 days away. Oct 18th at Powers Ferry Methodist Church from 4 PM to 7 PM, adults \$7.00 and children under 10 \$3.00. Hope to see you all there.

November 6 - The East Cobb Lions Club is sponsoring a branch club in Sandy Springs. The club meets at noon on the first and third Tuesday each month at the Sandy Springs Gun Club on Roswell Road.

November 12 - I spent the evening with fellow Lions Club members packing boxes of requested items for the troops abroad. Not a bad way to spend Veterans Day.



November 14 - SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!!! November 1, 2011 - It's time once again for our annual Pancakes with Santa breakfast fundraiser! On Saturday December 3rd from 7 to 11 am, we will be serving delicious fluffy pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, grits, coffee, and OJ ... all for just \$5 per person! The breakfast will be held at the Powers Ferry Methodist Church in Marietta, GA (245 Powers Ferry Rd. SE). Santa will be there and you can have a free photo with him! There is a free picture decorating station to jazz up the photo. Additionally, we will be having a raffle with lots of awesome prizes! And as always, this fundraiser is 100% non-profit.

December 20 - The East Cobb Lions Club is proud to be hosting Meals on Wheels again this Christmas. It is anticipated that we will be serving over 150 meals to citizens in Marietta and in East Cobb County. If you would like to volunteer, please join us at the Powers Ferry Methodist Church in Marietta at 9:30 am. Volunteers will be assembling the hot meals and delivering them. This is truly the spirit of Christmas. We have done this for over 20 years and we do not remember this many people helping make this happen. Santa even made a brief stop on his way back to the North Pole. He said he was exhausted but wanted to stop and enjoy all the love being shown in that room and kitchen.

January 26 - Starting Feb.10th we will at Cherokee Cattle Company, 2710 Canton Road, Marietta, GA 30066 at 7 PM. This will be our regular meeting place. I hope to see people who want to join the Lions club join us.

March 4 - Join us on April 9th at 8am for our 21st annual Hole in One, Sight For All charity golf tournament at Indian Hills Golf Club in Marietta. Our tournament will feature a closest to the pin contest, putting contest, awards and cash prizes for golfers, a silent auction, and much more. All proceeds raised will benefit the East Cobb Lions Club Foundation, Inc.

April 16 - This Saturday, April 18, our Lions Club will participate in the spring-long Keep Cobb Beautiful program by picking up litter along the East Cobb mile we have adopted. We will meet in the old Sears/K-Mart now Dicks Sporting Goods parking lot at 9 AM at the Johnson Ferry entrance. Lion Don Webster will have bright orange safety vests for us as well as the trash bags. Rain is not expected until noon or later, but it will be wet, so be prepared. Temperatures should be in the low 60's. This is an ongoing commitment we have made to our community. The more Lions there, the less time it takes and the more fun we have.

April 30 - The weather on Saturday, May 2, 2015 is predicted to be sunny and warm. Join us at 9 AM in front of Dick's Sporting Goods and help clean up Johnson Ferry Road while sharing good times, helping East Cobb and a sunny morning. Only takes about an hour, then you can go take a nap and rest up so you can watch the Kentucky Derby.

May 12 - Today, Tuesday, at the Eastside Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia, we will be awarding 6 scholarships to Seniors from the Cobb County Schools.

May 14 - Several members of the East Cobb Lions Club will be attending training sessions to learn about Lions Kids Sight USA and trying to give vision testing to thousands of children in the USA between the ages of 6 months and 6 years. Catching potential problems early.



Anne Mundy
DISTRICT "T"

Toccoa Lions Club

Past Year in review – how is your club doing?



July 23/24 - 2013/2014 Toccoa Lions Club President, Bryan "Bryan the Lion" Gordon continues his Award Presenting ways. Bryan presented Michelle Jamieson and Kay Royal with Committee Chair of the Year awards which included a framed certificate and an embroidered Lions polo shirt. Then Bryan announced that Sheila Rousey was named "Lion of the Year" and she was also presented with a certificate, polo shirt and a patch for her vest. The Toccoa Lions held a Club History/New Member Orientation meeting for their July 24th meeting. Rather than meet at their normal meeting place, they met at the Clary Center, an assistant living home.

August 23 - Members of the Toccoa Lions Club & the Mountain Charter High School/Toccoa Campus met to discuss forming a LEO Club. Both groups are excited about the possibility. If this works well at Toccoa there are 9 other Mountain Education Charter Schools that may be candidates for a LEO Club. Lion GeorgAnn will be the LEO Club Advisor and brings a lot of excitement to the endeavor.

September 29/30 - Dr. Ashley was presented with an original oil painting by Lion Flo. The painting was a gift from the Toccoa Lions Club to Dr. Ashley Fortney for her service to the community and participation in the sight conservation eye glasses program of the Toccoa Lions Club. The painting actually has a pair of glasses glued to the surface of the canvas so the lion in the picture can see clearly. Dr. Kenneth Schneider, Dr. Kay Royal and Dr. Kevin Vanderhoef all had previously received their original oil painting award from the Toccoa Lions Club.

October 11 - The Toccoa Lions Club presented Lion Dianne & Lion Steve with Certificates of Appreciation for their outstanding community service. TLC President, Lion Bill, noted that some people say that behind every successful man is a good woman. I am here to tell you that Dianne does not need to stand behind anyone. Her community service is tremendous on its own.

November 15 - For the fifth year, the Toccoa Lions Club invited the Stephens County High School JROTC Cadets to participate in the TLC's Patriotic Day Celebration. The JROTC Cadets Presented the Colors, led the Lions in the Pledge of Allegiance & led the Lions in a patriotic song. Cadets also presented Patriotic Essays. This year's theme was Selfless Service.

December 5/9 - Toccoa Lions Club President, Lion Bill, dropped by the Toccoa Wal-Mart to thank Store Manager, Alan Howard, for all the support Wal-Mart gives to help the Toccoa Lions live their Motto: We Serve. In addition to Diabetes Screening & Awareness, and Vision Screening, Wal-Mart allows the Toccoa Lions to hold their White Cane event at Wal-Mart. Wet & cold weather did not dampen the Toccoa Lions and MEC High School LEOs at the 2014 Toccoa/Stephens County Christmas Parade. Everyone had a great time and the Christmas Spirit was high. The rain stopped and the sun even broke through a couple of times at the beginning of the parade.

January 8 - The Toccoa Lions Club recognized the winners of the 2014 Peace Poster Contest at their January 8th, 2015 meeting. The Toccoa Lions feature the artwork of the Peace Poster Contest in their Club Calendar. If you would like a Toccoa Lions Club Calendar, contact any Toccoa Lion or send a Facebook Message here. If you would like to meet these artists, please plan on attending "Meet the Peace Poster Contest Artist" at The Studio on Doyle Street in Toccoa.

March 14 - Toccoa Lions Club recognizes 7 Lions for their service. The Toccoa Lions Club recognized seven of its members at their March 12th meeting. These Lions have over 300 combined years of service to our community. Each of these Lions have served in many positions and have worked tirelessly and unselfishly. They have been active in other community service.

April 13 - The Toccoa Lions did not let inclement weather dampen their spirits on Day 1 of the 2015 White Cane Campaign. The Toccoa Lions try to get youth involved in all their activities and Explorer Brooke Notebaert from the Stephens County Sheriff Department Law Enforcement Explorer Post worked the first shift of the day. Brooke is also a Stephens County High School JROTC Cadet. Toccoa Lions working the event.

May 1 - Toccoa Lions Bryan Gordon & Bill Graham attended the 2015 Stephens County High School JROTC Award Ceremony. This is the fourth year in a row for Bryan the Lion. Lt. Col. Priatko & the JROTC Cadets are doing excellent work with the program. Both Lions Bryan & Bill have witness the difference the program is making in these students lives. The awards program was exceptional. Bryan the Lion noted that the JROTC.



Bonnie Kelly
DISTRICT "O"

Centerville Lions Club

Past Year in review – how is your club doing?

July 1 - We had a wonderful time with the community at the Centerville Celebration! Thanks for including us! — with Betti Belflower Cotton and 5 others at Centerville City Hall.



July 23 - Marilyn Halaska gave us a great presentation on Disaster Preparedness this past Monday night. Next month we have Dr. Adam Levy as our guest speaker. He will be speaking on colon cancer and/or cancer of the esophagus.

August 2 - Thanks to all who visited us at the Health Fair today at Galleria Mall.

September 22 - Leos Induction Night - A Proud Moment by Byron Lions Club and Centerville GA Lions - What a great evening! The Byron-Centerville Area Leo Club held their Charter Night. Thank you District Governor Bonnie Kelly, Vice District Governor Hannah Flynn, Past District Governors Chris Summer, Georgia Taylor and Jack Taylor for coming from South Georgia to be part of this special evening. Thank you Byron Lions Club and Centerville GA Lions for sponsoring the Leo Club and putting on the great party. Thank everyone for coming, and a special thank you to Robert Bob Griggers for his generous donation to the Leos.

October 12 - Centerville GA Lions was with Barbara Kirby and Walker Fowler at Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter.

October 26 - Each year as part of World Service Day we prepare and serve meals to the senior citizens of Centerville. Members donate small gifts that we then give as door prizes. Everyone gets a prize. Then we also have a special prize for the oldest male and oldest female in attendance. Come join us in this fun event.

November 18 - We had a fun time at our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner last night. We are all so thankful for our Lions Club family

December 7 - Centerville Christmas Parade 2014 by Centerville GA Lions and 3 others

January 31 – Annual Glaucoma Screenings

February 16 - Great meeting tonight. Lion Lloyd Britt received the Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Well deserved. We all love Lloyd. He and Judy are always helping others. We also had two sisters from the Daughters of Charity speak to us of their work at Daybreak- A Project of DePaul USA. Daybreak is an amazing daytime community center for the homeless. It is located in downtown Macon.

February 18 - Caden is looking - and seeing - great in his new glasses! "Because of your Star Pupils screening, we learned my son's vision was 20/400. I was overcome with emotion when the doctor revealed how bad his vision really was. I just couldn't imagine that he was so sight deprived for years and I didn't know. He is on the road to better sight with his new glasses!"

March 20 - Come join us for some really good BBQ or smoked Chicken plate. \$7. Friday March 20th. 10:00am till 1pm. Your support helps eyesight conservation. Remember we serve Centerville and all of Houston County.



Larry Varnadoe
DISTRICT "N"

Savannah Lions Club

Past Year in review – how is your club doing?



May 30 · Having your picture taken with the SAVANNAH LION....AWESOME!!! Supporting the LIONS CLUB OF SAVANNAH..... PRICELESS!!!!

March 29 · Lions Club of Savannah President Sandra Tribbett at the American Legion with the Savannah Lions enjoying the Low country boil.....food was delicious, deserts were fantastic....a good time was had by all!!!! Yes, if there is a Savannah Lion event, there is always good food!!!!!!

February 10 · Savannah LIONS President - SOUTH Magazine page 176 - helping at the Rape Crisis Center Reindeer Run!!!!!!

December 20 · What a fun evening with wonderful people, great food and great entertainment! Merry Christmas to all!!

December 12 · Savannah Lions President Sandra Tribbett with lion Colin Ezzeell presenting a check to Keesha at the Rape Crisis Center fundraiser!!! Savannah Lions are really ROARING this year!!!! Thank you to all of the Lions that came out today to 'ring the bell' for the Salvation Army! It is our privilege to help this wonderful organization. If you are still out and about at Oglethorpe Mall, come and see us at the inside entrance to Belk! We Serve!!



December 6 · Savannah Lions President making a donation to the Military TOYS FOR TOTS Fundraiser!

December 4 · Savannah Lions President at the Ronald McDonald fundraiser presenting a check to Billy on behalf of the Savannah Lions..... WE SERVE.....

November 23 · WE HAVE YOUR TREE ... Open every day except Thanksgiving Day... Daphin Park... Can't wait to see you...While everyone is enjoying their Saturday this weekend, the Lions will be enjoying setting up the tree lot! We will be open for business on November 23 after our big tree delivery on the 22nd! Come and join us on the 23rd for Opening Day!! Roar!!! Our Savannah Lions are all volunteers and 100% of the money we raise at this fundraiser stays in our community. We pay for eye exams, eyeglasses & hearing aides for children & adults in need!!! Why, oh why would you buy your beautiful tree anywhere else?? Our Motto is "WE SERVE"!! HELP US SERVE YOU!!! Serving Savannah since 1922.....hear us Roar!!!!

November 11 - Lions Club of Savannah added 55 new photos to the album: SAVANNAH'S VETERAN'S PARADE.

September 5 · It is my pleasure to be doing a fundraiser for the LIONS CLUB OF SAVANNAH with Murray Silver

August 3 · Here is living proof of Garland Mathews's hard work this year at the Ballroom Extravaganza fundraiser. It was a beautiful show. Thanks to all of you!



Lions Clubs International



Membership = *Now is the time for all good quality adults to be asked to join your Lions Club.*

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/membership-and-new-clubs/index.php>



“Ask One” Begins At Home

Lions volunteering with family is a great way for families to have fun and feel closer. It is even better when family members become Lions! If you ask one, you should ask your closest friend, the person you trust most – your loving spouse and partner. Share your commitment and enthusiasm for Lions with your family members. Families that serve together as Lions establish a family tradition of serving others.



The Ask One membership campaign starts at home. If Lions families are on the front lines serving their communities, the word will spread wider and faster. We will gain the recognition we deserve as the greatest service organization in the world.

Membership Webinars

Membership webinars provide an opportunity for Lions to learn about various membership programs and discuss membership topics. Panelists are made up of Lions from around the world and Membership Development Division staff. Below contains a list of webinars with the link.

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/webinars/membership-webinars.php>

Volunteering and its Surprising Benefits

Helping Others While Helping Yourself

With busy lives, it can be hard to find time to volunteer. However, the benefits of volunteering are enormous to you, your family, and your community. The right match can help you find friends, reach out to the community, learn new skills, and even advance your career. Volunteering can also help protect your mental and physical health. Learn more about the many benefits of volunteering and find tips on getting started as a volunteer.

Benefits of volunteering #1: Volunteering connects you to others

One of the better-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community. Unpaid volunteers are often the glue that holds a community together. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place. Even helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need. And volunteering is a two-way street: It can benefit you and your family as much as the cause you choose to help. Dedicating your time as a volunteer helps you make new friends, expand your network, and boost your social skills.

Benefits of volunteering #2: Volunteering is good for your mind and body

Volunteering provides many benefits to both mental and physical health.

- **Volunteering increases self-confidence.** Volunteering can provide a healthy boost to your self-confidence, self-esteem, and life satisfaction. You are doing good for others and the community, which provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity. And the better you feel about yourself, the more likely you are to have a positive view of your life and future goals.
- **Volunteering combats depression.** Reducing the risk of depression is another important benefit of volunteering. A key risk factor for depression is social isolation. Volunteering keeps you in regular contact with others and helps you develop a solid support system, which in turn protects you against stress and depression when you're going through challenging times. [Working with pets](#) and other animals has also been shown to improve mood and reduce stress and anxiety.
- **Volunteering helps you stay physically healthy.** Volunteering is good for your health at any age, but it's especially beneficial in older adults. Studies have found that those who volunteer have a lower mortality rate than those who do not, even when considering factors like the health of the participants. Volunteering has also been shown to lessen symptoms of chronic pain or heart disease.

Benefits of volunteering #3: Volunteering can advance your career

If you're considering a new career, volunteering can help you get experience in your area of interest and meet people in the field. Even if you're not planning on changing careers, volunteering gives you the opportunity to practice important skills used in the workplace, such as teamwork, communication, problem solving, project planning, task management, and organization. You might feel more comfortable stretching your wings at work once you've honed these skills in a volunteer position first.

Benefits of volunteering #4: Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life

Volunteering is a fun and easy way to explore your interests and passions. Doing volunteer work you find meaningful and interesting can be a relaxing, energizing escape from your day-to-day routine of work, school, or family commitments. Volunteering also provides you with renewed creativity, motivation, and vision that can carry over into your personal and professional life.

Many people volunteer in order to make time for hobbies outside of work as well. For instance, if you have a desk job and long to spend time outdoors, you might consider volunteering to help plant a community garden, walk dogs for an animal shelter, or help out at a children's camp.

Getting the most out of volunteering

You're donating your valuable time, so it's important that you enjoy and benefit from your volunteering. It's important to make sure that your volunteer position is a good fit and to communicate with the people you're working within the volunteer organization.

- **Ask questions.** You want to make sure that the experience is right for your skills, your goals, and the time you want to spend. If you have any questions, be sure to speak up. Sample questions to your volunteer coordinator might address your time commitment, if there's any training involved, who you will be working with, and what to do if you have questions during your experience.
- **Make sure you know what's expected.** Before starting, make sure you are comfortable with the organization, know what is expected, and understand the time commitment. Consider starting small so that you don't over commit yourself at first. Give yourself some flexibility to change your focus if needed.
- **Don't be afraid to make a change.** Speak up if your experience isn't what you expected. Don't force yourself into a bad fit. Talk to the organization about changing your focus or consider looking for another match.
- **Enjoy yourself.** Most importantly, make sure you're having fun! The best volunteer experiences benefit both the volunteer and the organization. If you're not enjoying yourself, ask yourself why. Is it the tasks you're performing? The people you're working with? Or are you uncomfortable simply because the situation is new and unfamiliar? Pinpointing what's bothering you can help you decide how to proceed.

Membership Publications

Download forms and publications that help strengthen your club's membership.

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/publications-forms/membership.php>

Lions Mentoring Program

The objective of the Lions Mentoring Program is to help every member achieve the goal of better serving his or her community. It does so through a program of personal development that helps members realize the potential that their unique skills and knowledge offer. The Lions Mentoring Program prepares them for leadership in clubs, in the association and in their personal lives as well. For Lions Clubs International, this means more hands and better service for the people who need it most. The Lions Mentoring Program is completed in two parts, basic and advanced. Each part is completed in two levels.

Basic Mentoring Program The goals of the Basic Mentoring Program are to gain responsibility and to build relationships. The Basic Mentoring Program can be considered a stepping stone to a leadership role.

Level One, The Responsibility of Being a Lion: The first level of the Basic Mentoring Program is devoted to developing an understanding of who Lions are, their vision of humanitarian service, the traditions, the organizational structure and the responsibility of being a Lions club member. It should be a goal of every club that all new Lions complete the level one in their first three months of membership.

Level Two, Relationships: The second level of the Basic Mentoring Program is for developing relationships and organizational skills in preparation for leadership at the club level. Level two should be completed in the new Lion's first six months of membership.

Strengthen Membership

Go to this web site <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/strengthen-membership/index.php>

you just might learn something different.

REPORT OF MD 18 GMT CHAIR – LION JANE PRICE, PDG:

As **MD 18 GMT Chair**, PDG Price submitted the following printed report:

Although MD18 districts continue to actively work on new club development and club-rebuilding, it looks like we are going the end the year with a net loss. Despite all efforts, the way we are going about trying to address our membership issues is not proving to be effective. Therefore, after receiving agreement from the Council in January that our current membership strategies are not resulting in positive growth for the state and briefly meeting with the Council-elect members in April, we will begin an assessment of steps we want to take going forward. Thursday afternoon, May 14th, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., the Council-elect will be meeting with me and any of the GLTs and GMTs that are available to begin a strategic planning process to address our state's membership strategies. While this meeting will be a small group, I am sure we will expand the participation as we identify areas that need more in depth scrutiny and assessment.

As you know, the strategic planning process involves clarifying the overall purpose and desired results of an organization and how those results will be achieved. It takes into consideration the setting of priorities, focusing of energy and resources, ensuring that all stakeholders are working toward common goals, and then measuring the success of those goals. Hopefully, this tool will enable us to move forward with success. Also, on Friday morning, May 15th, I will be meeting with the district GMTs for a bit of training and to review the membership goals for next year as established by the DGEs.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you and the Lions of Georgia this year as your MD 18 GMT.



The Global Leadership Team (GLT) Webinar Tutorial – How to Be a Participant

Go to this web site: <http://lions.alkonhosting.com/EN/webinar/player.html>

Upon finishing this tutorial you will be able to register, log in and actively participate in a webinar

Webinars are virtual trainings generally one hour long that are conducted online with a group of participants and instructors. Participants use the Internet to connect the group members with the instructors. To register and login, participants are directed to an Internet address. Please [review our Guide to Register/login](#).

Online courses in the Lions Learning Center (LLC) provide Lions with the opportunity to develop leadership skills. Download [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (pdf). **New Improved Login:** Create a personal profile to take courses and keep a record of your completed courses. View a [quick video](#) on this process <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/lions-learning-center/login-video.php>. Go to the [Course Registration Page](#) to login.

LOGIN

<https://secure.starfieldtms.com/lci/TMS/Security/Login.aspx?Url=%2fcli%2fdefault.aspx&culture=en-US>

Note: The Lions Learning Center (LLC) is a separate system from MyLCI. To create an account and log into the LLC you will use your Lions Member ID number and create your own Password.

2015 Webinars Schedule: Click on the date and webinar name to view more details.

Webinar Description

Dates/Times

One Great Adventure – The Role of the Zone Chairperson Join a zone

chairperson on his year of adventure, including challenges, allies, tools and gear, necessary skills, obstacles, and the final triumph of the Zone Chairperson award. An engaging way to understand what it takes to excel in this vital Lions position.

Harmony Among Generations

Understanding generational differences can assist with both member recruitment and retention. This training explores diverse motivations among Lions and how each constituency can find and value varying perspectives. Don't miss our most popular webinar!

Goal Setting and Action Planning

Optimize club success by strategic goal planning and execution! This online training offers tools for defining SMART goals, developing an action plan, and managing goals for the best results.

Register for a session:

[Wednesday, July 29, 2015, 1:00pm](#)

[Friday, July 31, 2015, 8:00pm](#)

Register for a session:

[Wednesday, August 5, 2015, 1:00pm](#)

[Friday, August 14, 2015, 8:00pm](#)

Register for a session:

[Wednesday, September 2, 2015,](#)

[12:00pm](#)

[Friday, September 11, 2015, 7:00pm](#)

Online Course Category: Leadership

Introduction to Lions Leadership: This course defines leadership and shows varied leadership styles and how they can be used. You will assess your leadership style. Five practices of exemplary world leaders are explained and applied. Through matching activities and quizzes, you can check your learning and use it in Lions situations. You will create a personal leadership development plan.

Writing Your Personal Mission Statement: Prepare to embark on a journey of self-discovery! Through a series of introspective activities, you will craft your personal mission statement and learn how to integrate it into your everyday life. You'll also be provided with a model for putting "first things first" and preventing less important tasks from consuming the majority of your time.

Creativity: Take this course to refresh your creative skills, practicing creativity through activities during the course. Learn by example how other Lions have used their creativity to plan new projects, support a new Lions club, create new ideas, and foster a positive club environment.

Mentoring: This course describes a mentor and a mentee, the characteristics of an effective mentoring relationship and the benefits of mentoring. The Lions Mentoring Program is emphasized in a detailed presentation of the basic and advanced program levels.

Promoting Innovation: Sustainable growth and effective service require new ideas and actions. This course provides tips on stimulating creativity and creating an environment that supports innovation in your club.

Managing Change: You will learn how to become a change leader by taking this course. Through activities, you will recognize the roles in the change implementation process and the way different people react to change and adopt change. You will use checklists to assess resistance and develop a plan to implement a change that is needed.

Servant Leadership: Servant Leadership is an effective leadership philosophy based on one's desire to serve others. A Servant Leader looks to the needs of the people and asks himself how he can help them to solve problems and to develop new personal skills. Embark on a journey of self-discovery as you learn about the practice of Servant Leadership through real life scenarios and activities. This course simulates going on a journey driving on a highway, taking exits and stopping occasionally at rest stops for reflection as you progress through the course.

Online Course Category: Achieve Results

Setting Goals: Many people do not achieve their goals because they do not establish effective goals. In this course, you will learn how to do just that. You will complete the process of defining goals, writing an action plan, and then managing your goals for the best results. By the end of the course you will be on the path to achievement.

Decision Making: Do you want to improve your decision making? This course presents the steps of decision-making, a range of decision making styles, and ways to increase group acceptance. In addition, several techniques are illustrated that you can use in making your decision, such as Pareto rule, force field analysis, decision tree, stepladder technique, and grid analysis comparison.

Managing Meetings: As you follow Lion David on a series of club visits, this course presents the three phases of good meeting management, effective meeting preparation procedures, and meeting facilitation. You learn how to manage group behavior and how to follow-up between meetings. You will use practical worksheets and checklists to achieve effective meeting management in your club.

Providing Community Service: Lions have a strong commitment to the community, and each club strives to provide meaningful service. In this course you will find tools and techniques to help you assess community needs, select worthwhile projects, plan projects for success, and promote your club's service to the community.

Time Management: Since Lions are balancing time demands of work, family and club activities, effective time management is a necessary skill for all Lions. This course helps Lions identify common time wasting activities, provides strategies and resources for effective time management, and enables Lions to evaluate time demands related to urgency and importance. Activities in the course allow learners to apply time management principles and resources to practical Lions situations.

Online Course Category: Communication

Effective Listening: As a speaker, you expect your audience's undivided attention. As an audience member, do you give your undivided attention to the speaker? In this course you will learn to be an effective listener. Through engaging activities, you will learn about listening styles, the positive outcomes of listening effectively, and the skills needed to be an effective listener in everyday life.

Public Speaking: This course presents how to prepare a speech and how to deliver a speech effectively. Included in the course are practical tips and checklists, as well as examples. Depending on your experience, you can use this course to review or to learn a new leadership skill-public speaking.

Public Relations: This course defines public relations and presents the benefits for Lions clubs. You'll learn what makes an event newsworthy and how to communicate key messages about Lions clubs. You will create an elevator speech and a public relations plan. You will discover the numerous public relations resources that you can use.

REPORT OF SOUTHEAST AREA GLT COORDINATOR – LION MARK MILLER, PCC:

MARK MILLER, PCC:

PCC Miller stated that there will be 11 ½ hours of training as part of the State Convention. He thanked the Council for approving. Since the last Council Meeting District Governor Elect and Vice District Governor training opportunities took place. A Dynamic Club workshop was completed in Baxley. This was successful. The first two Saturdays in June, June 6th and June 13th are the next Lions University Training opportunities. There will be one in Jasper, Georgia (at the new Jasper Lions Building) for Districts L and I, on June 6th. He encouraged Governors to promote this training opportunity for those Districts. For the south part of the state, at the Sheriff's Department in Crisp County, Cordele, Georgia (Hwy 300), the training opportunity for Districts O and N, Lions University on June 13th. Registration starts at 9:00 AM.

PCC Miller discussed the USA Canada Forum. There will be 120 different seminars that will occur at this year's Forum. There will be a bus available to the Forum. DGE Fred Carlson has details on this bus trip. Bus expense is \$150.00 for transportation to the forum. There is a Friday morning breakfast for Georgia Lions at the Forum with Dr. Yamada. It will be held in the Presidential Suite of the hotel. The cost of that meal is \$25.00. This will be a great opportunity for the Lions of Georgia.

Looking ahead for Future Events Coming

Lions Leadership Institute of the South in Florida, April 14-17, 2016 and in Mississippi, June 2-4, 2016.



International President *Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada*

Peace, hope, determination, teamwork and uniting people through service are central elements of my presidential theme –

“Dignity. Harmony. Humanity.”

Dignity

As we strive to serve the needs of others, let us always remember to respect the dignity of those we serve. As we reach out to others with hands of service, let us always remember it is not a handout.

Harmony

As we build others up, let us always remember serving others isn't just an act of kindness; it is also a means to build understanding and harmony.

Humanity

As we show empathy for the less fortunate in our respective communities, let us extend empathy to all who are suffering around the world.

And as we continue to serve human kind, let us remember that serving humanity is not a duty, it is a responsibility. I am immensely proud and extremely humbled to be the president of the global leader in humanitarian service – Lions Clubs International. I wish you 1,000 cranes. But most of all, I hope the service you bestow on others brings you tremendous love and fulfillment, and fills your heart with joy and peace.

*“Be kind. Be open. Be curious. Be strong. Be generous. Be sincere. Be loyal. Be honest.
Be a Lion.”*

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

Bring Hope and Dignity through Service

- **Centennial Service Challenge** – Help us reach our goal of benefitting 100 million people for our 100th anniversary.
- **Lions Children First** – Get resources to develop hands-on projects to help children in need.
- **Reading Action Program** – Find out how you can give the gift of literacy.
- **Leo Spotlight on Children** – Learn how Leos bring hope to vulnerable children through this international project.

Strengthen Your Club to Better Serve Your Community

- **Centennial Celebration Membership Awards** – Earn special awards for inviting new members and helping to organize new clubs.
- **Ask One** – Get the tools to energize your membership efforts and build a stronger, healthier club.
- **Blueprint for a Stronger Club** – Map out your plan for ongoing club success in three simple steps.
- **Club Quality Initiative (CEP)** – Get your club performing at its highest level through an interactive CEP workshop. Choose CEP Pro or CEP Lite.
- **Your Club, Your Way** – Learn how to customize club meetings to meet the needs of your members.
- **Club President's Award** – Implement the 7 Keys to Success and earn recognition.

Create Harmony through Effective Leadership

- **Leadership Resource Center** – Get the resources to take your leadership to the next level.
- **Lions Learning Center** – Develop your leadership skills with engaging online courses.
- **Global Leadership Team** – Learn how Lions are working together to support present and future Lions leaders.

Build Bridges for Humanity

- **LCIF** – Learn about LCIF's life-changing work and how you can **support** it.
- **Club Twinning** – Make new friends and build harmony as a Lions club twin.
- **Missions** – Partner with another club to organize an international humanitarian mission.
- **Youth Camp and Exchange Program** – Sponsor the next generation of leaders and ambassadors of peace.
- **Peace Poster Contest** – Learn more about our international contest that gives kids the opportunity to express their visions of peace.

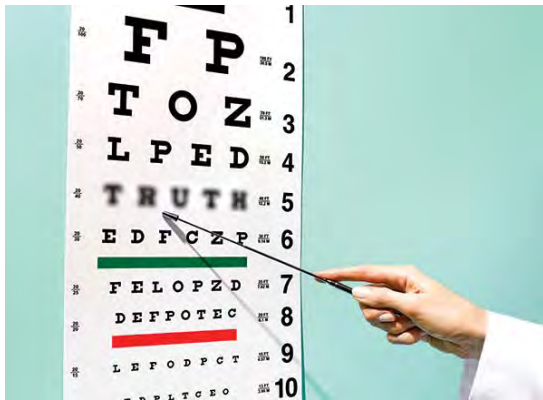
Club President Keys To Success

1. Increased value in being a Member (*better education for new members*)
2. Making clubs that members are proud to be in (*improving club satisfaction*)
3. High quality service projects (*relevant to the actual needs of the general community*)
4. Serving with family members (*because “Ask One” starts at home*)
5. More female members / young members (*the ideal man to woman ratio is 1:1*)
6. Being leaders in the community (*more leadership training*)
7. Thinking outside the box (*reform of inefficient practices, customs and policies*)

Clear advice on glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration

The supplements, drugs, and tests you do—and don't—need

Published: April 23, 2015 10:30 AM



It's natural to worry about losing your vision. After all, three of the leading causes of blindness in the U.S.—cataracts, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration—all become more common as we age. But some drug, supplement, and lens makers, and even some doctors, take advantage of that fear, recommending treatments that are expensive, unnecessary, and even risky. Here's what you need to know:

Cataracts = The only way to cure cataracts—a clouding of the lens of the eye that impairs vision—is with surgery to replace the bad lens with an artificial one. Though the procedure is very safe and effective, some doctors recommend needless tests or push newer types of lenses that pose risks.

Skip unneeded pre-surgery tests - Cataract surgery, usually performed as an outpatient procedure, requires only a local anesthetic to numb your eye. Research shows that for most people the only pre-op requirements are that you be free of infection and have normal blood pressure and heart rate. Yet many doctors routinely order other tests, including blood counts and electrocardiograms, as would be necessary before a major procedure. That's overkill, according to the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO). Those tests can come with high co-pays and lead to false alarms that may delay surgery or force you to undergo additional tests, such as a chest X-ray or ultrasound. So ask whether your doctor plans to recommend such tests and, if so, whether you can skip them.

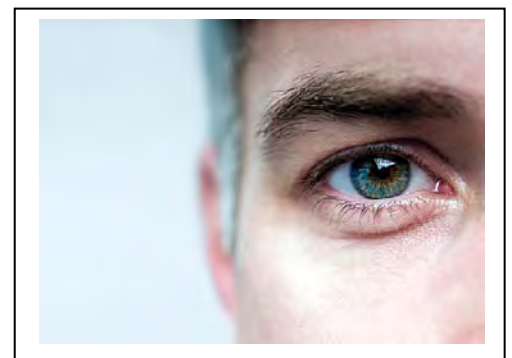
Be wary of premium lenses - In standard cataract surgery, doctors remove the clouded lens and replace it with an artificial, monofocal lens, which provides clear images at either near or far vision. There are multifocal lenses that do both, so you don't also have to wear glasses.

But multifocal lenses cost up to \$4,000—and usually aren't covered by insurance. More worrisome, a 2012 review found that while the lenses provided better near vision, they also produced more complaints of halos and glare. Other research shows that people with multifocal lenses are also more likely to need repeat surgery.

One time you might consider a premium intraocular lens: if you have an astigmatism, or an irregularly shaped cornea. Special lenses, called toric lenses, can correct that problem, says David Sholiton, M.D., an ophthalmologist at the Cleveland Clinic. And studies reveal that most people who get them are satisfied. But you will probably have to pay \$1,000 or more out of your own pocket, because insurance rarely covers them.

Glaucoma = More than 2.2 million Americans have glaucoma, but only half know it. That makes screening important. Treatment is key, too, because glaucoma can lead to permanent vision loss. But treatment, which often requires several different daily eye-drops, can be expensive and complicated.

Get the right tests - Glaucoma often goes undiagnosed because it causes no symptoms until vision declines, at which point treatment no longer helps. So people ages 40 to 60 should consider being examined by an ophthalmologist or optometrist every three to five years; those over 60 need an eye exam every one to two years.



Know you may need more than one test - Though many eye doctors screen for the disease with [tonometry](#)—a test that measures eye pressure—that's not enough. Relying only on intraocular pressure when screening for glaucoma could miss up to half of all cases, research suggests, says San Francisco ophthalmologist Andrew Iwach, M.D., a spokesman for the

AAO. So the exam should also include an [ophthalmoscopy](#), which involves examining your optic nerve. If you have elevated eye pressure but no other signs of glaucoma, you may not need to start treatment, which can be expensive. Instead, your doctor might screen you more often.

Go for generics - The most common treatment for glaucoma is eye-drops known as prostaglandin analogs (PGAs), which lower eye pressure. Generic versions of most of those drugs are much cheaper than the brand-name versions. And perhaps because of the lower cost, patients taking them tend to do a better job of using the drops on schedule, which is important, according to an April 2015 study in the journal *Ophthalmology*.

Know you may need more than one drug - Many people need several drugs to control glaucoma, which usually means adding a beta-blocker drop. In that case, ask your doctor about drugs that combine medications, minimizing the number of drops.

Use proper eye-drop technique - Tilt your head back and pull down the lower lid with your finger to form a pocket. Hold the dropper tip close to the eye without touching it, and squeeze one drop into the pocket. Close your eye for 2 to 3 minutes, tip your head down, and gently press on the inner corner of the eye. Try not to blink. If you need more than one drop in the same eye, wait at least 5 minutes between drops to let the first drop absorb.

See our advice on [how to get a great looking pair of cheap glasses](#) and our [guide to eye glass stores](#).

Macular degeneration = [Age-related macular degeneration](#), the leading cause of vision loss in the U.S. for people 50 and older, damages the macula, the small area near the center of your retina, causing vision loss in the center of your visual field. The advanced disease comes in two main forms: dry AMD, the more common variety, which is treated mainly with dietary supplements; and wet AMD, the more serious form, which requires monthly injections from an ophthalmologist with one of three drugs. There are controversies about both the supplements and the drugs.

Get the right supplement - Research funded by the National Institutes of Health has shown that a specific blend of vitamins and minerals known as AREDS—vitamins C and E, plus copper, lutein, zeaxanthin, and zinc—cuts the risk by about 25 percent that dry AMD will progress. “It’s really the only treatment,” says Neil Bressler, M.D., chief of the retina division at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

But not all eye supplements contain the proper formulation. In January 2015 CVS was sued for incorrectly marketing its Advanced Eye Health supplement as comparable to the formula used in published studies. And in an analysis of 11 eye-health supplements in the March 2015 issue of *Ophthalmology*, only four contained the right mix: PreserVision Eye Vitamin AREDS Formula, PreserVision Eye Vitamin Lutein Formula, PreserVision AREDS2 Formula, and ICAPS AREDS.

Be wary if your doctor suggests a genetic test to determine which supplement is best for you. Remember: Those supplements have only been shown to help treat people diagnosed with AMD. Don’t bother taking any supplement with the hope that it will prevent the disease.

Consider inexpensive drugs - Each of the three drugs used to treat wet AMD—afibercept (Eylea), bevacizumab (Avastin), and ranibizumab (Lucentis)—work equally well in slowing vision loss. But Avastin costs just \$50 per month, compared with \$2,000 for the others. So experts recommend Avastin as the first choice for most people with wet AMD. But some doctors resist that advice.

First, Avastin is officially approved only as a cancer drug and doesn’t come in appropriate doses for AMD. So doctors need to get the medicine from a compounding pharmacy, which combines, alters, or—in this case—repackages ingredients. That poses some risk of contamination, and there have been reports of people being harmed by bacteria that got into Avastin. So some doctors, especially those without access to a reliable compounding pharmacy, may hesitate to prescribe the drug.

Some other physicians may have a financial reason for skipping Avastin: Medicare reimburses doctors less for it. That might help your doctor’s wallet, but it can hurt yours: People without supplemental Medicare may pay up to \$400 out of pocket for Lucentis, compared with just \$10 for Avastin.

Our advice: Consider Avastin, especially if you don’t have supplemental Medicare coverage. But ask whether your doctor’s [compounding pharmacy](#) is accredited by the Pharmacy Compounding Accreditation Board, which means it must adhere to quality standards.

Editor's Note: This article also appeared in the June 2015 issue of [Consumer Reports on Health](#).



Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

Providing vision and hearing services to Georgians in financial need.



Dear Georgia Lions!

PCC Clower pointed out that Executive Director Roberta Green could not be present this weekend due to the wedding of her daughter. She called attention to a printed report in each file:

The Lions of Georgia unanimously approved a recent revision to our Lighthouse Constitution at our Joint Meeting in January. In an effort to strengthen our partnership with our Georgia Lions Camp, Executive Director Roberta Green has begun collaborating with Camp Executive Director Brian Blackburn. We look forward to participating in some joint activities with the Camp including some possible Board training. It is important that we all recognize that we must all work together to support each other.

We are looking forward to sharing information on the KidSight USA program during two different sessions Saturday at the State Convention. We will have informational material available at that time. To help support the collection of data for KidSight USA, the Board has approved the purchase of Electronic Health Records software. The new software will be implemented in May and June. Our Lighthouse meeting will be Friday at 2:30 p.m. immediately following the Camp meeting.

Our Recycling Center is very busy. We still need volunteers to help us out. We hope to eventually run the Recycling Center with just Lions volunteers. We can't do that without your help. The new program that allows Lions and their spouses to purchase eyeglasses through our Optics Lab has been rolled out. Council Chair Olin Newby and I both have glasses that were fabricated at the Lighthouse. We bought them at a discounted rate that will make it possible for someone else to have a pair of glasses. I highly recommend that Lions take advantage of this great program. Below is a short summary of other items:

Services and Costs:

Our Lighthouse has provided 1,766 eye exams and furnished 3,555 eyeglasses this fiscal year. We have had 811 Frame Kit patients served. We have served 139 patients with 527 surgical procedures at a cost of \$245,481.66. Finally, we have provided 1,346 hearing aids with funds of \$445,500.00 furnished by the Public Service Commission.

Finances:

Our Night of Spectacles fundraiser was a huge success. The Lighthouse Staff is to be commended for the great job they did. We should know soon how we fared financially. Our next fundraiser will be the Taste of Chamblee. Save the date of September 12, 2015 and plan to be there. The giving from our Lions Clubs is down compared to last year.

The Board of Directors:

The Lighthouse officers were elected in January. They are:

Chair – PCC Grace Clower

Vice-Chair – PDG Mark Rice

Secretary – Lion Donna Townsend

Treasurer – PDG Tim Chisholm

District L elected Lion Cheryl Lee as their District Director for next year. District O elected Lion J. C. Coefield as their District Director. The Governance Committee will be recommending to the Board of Directors Lions to serve as Members-at-Large. We are also setting up committees for next year. Those interested in serving on a committee should let us know. In order to build a strong Board, we ask that Lions serve on a committee to learn about the Lighthouse operation and possibly move on to serve on the Board in the future.

The Board of Directors and the Staff of our Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation continue to live out our Lions motto, "We Serve".

Summer Service Numbers

1Jul12014 – 31May2015

District L

Eye Exams: 753

Eye Glasses: 1,851

Eye Surgeries: 278

Hearing Aids: 636

District I

Eye Exams: 565

Eye Glasses: 1,284

Eye Surgeries: 114

Hearing Aids: 389

District O

Eye Exams: 292

Eye Glasses: 436

Eye Surgeries: 157

Hearing Aids: 346

District N

Eye Exams: 544

Eye Glasses: 863

Eye Surgeries: 106

Hearing Aids: 239

Fiscal Year Totals:

Eye Exams: 2,154

Eye Glasses: 4,434

Eye Surgeries: 655

Hearing Aids: 1,610

Service Numbers

Service Numbers have hit all-time highs in the past several months! With over 6,500 services projected by year end, our goal for 2014-15 is over 7,000.

"When you give a little,
you get a lot."
-Lion Bret Wagenhorst, M.D.

Better Vision. Better Hearing. Better Georgia.





KidSight Program

CC Newby called on Grace Clower. PCC Grace Clower stated that this was a part of her report to the Council. The Staff at the Lighthouse will be present part of this weekend and they are ready to do the training on the KidSight USA program. They are in the process of training the Lighthouse District Directors to serve as the contact persons. There will be two training sessions on Saturday afternoon. CC Newby stated that a company who makes one of the machines that will be used in the program will be available this weekend.

DG Nedza, 18-N, stated that he has participated in some of the preliminary screenings using the machine. He stated that a few weeks ago he tested about 185 preschoolers, age 6 months to three years. All students were tested in 2 and ½ hours. The machine took roughly 2 to 3 seconds to screen a child.

PIP Ervin stated that an important part of the screening is the report that should go to the Lighthouse so that they will be able to document all the screenings taking place throughout the state, so that this information can be forwarded on to Lions Clubs International.

GLLF Lions Club Museum

To schedule a visit contact: Chip Nedza, Lions Club Historian | chip993@msn.com | 912.756.3215 visit www.lionslighthouse.org

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Staff

Main Line: 404-325-3630

Executive Director

Roberta Green, Ext. 301

Director of Finance =

LaShaundra Ruby, Ext 302

Program Services – Patient Care, Vision Clinics and General Questions =

Director of Programs Morgan Alexander, Ext. 309

Hearing Services - Questions, Patient Care

Hearing Services Manager, Shetera Reaves, Ext. 313

Eye Surgery Services - Questions, Patient Care

Eye Surgery Director – Victoria Jordan, Ext. 303

Optical Service – Frame Kit, Eyeglass Orders and Optical Lab

Director of Optics – Peri Finch = Ext 328

Development Opportunities - Fundraising, Club Giving, Donations

Chief Development Officer – Kembra Landry, Ext. 322

Marketing Opportunities - Club Materials, Promotions, Website, Social Media

Marketing Director – Alison Kuhlke, Ext. 306

Volunteer Services - Questions, Scheduling, Recycling Center and Rentals of Vision Screeners

Outreach Director - Marsha Marshall, Ext. 345

Volunteer Manager –

Lion Harold Walker - Phone: 404-376-2126

Volunteer Assistant Manager –

Lion Albert Green - Phone: 404-861-4371

Lions section on website password: **bingham1**

REPORT OF MD 18 SIGHT PRESERVATION AWARENESS & ACTION – LION J. C. COEFIELD:

Georgia Lions Lighthouse White Cane

As of 31 March 2015, the Lions of Georgia had contributed \$11,559.11 toward the goal of \$120,000. During these hard economic times, the Lighthouse needs your help more than ever. Please do your part to encourage the clubs in your district to participate in this fundraiser to save sight.

Healthy Vision Month

May is Healthy Vision Month, a national eye health observation in the United States. Millions of people living in the United States have undetected vision problems, eye diseases, and conditions. HVM is designed to elevate vision as a health priority for the Nation by promoting the importance of early detection and treatment, as well as the use of proper eye safety practices, in preventing vision loss and blindness. Go to <https://www.nei.nih.gov/hvm/> for more information.

Lions Recycle for Sight

Start an eyeglass collection project or raise awareness for your clubs ongoing effort by placing collection boxes in highly visible locations. Go to <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/serve/sight/recycle-eyeglasses/index.php> for valuable resources. Eyeglasses in Georgia are recycled by the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. Go to <https://lionslighthouse.org/getinvolved/eyeglass-recycling-program/> for more information.

Georgia Statewide Coalition on Blindness

The GSCB's purpose is to positively change people's attitudes about blindness, while focusing on enhancing education opportunities for school-age blind students; ensuring specialized services for the blind are designed to achieve integrated employment outcomes; and ensuring the older blind (55 and up) receive specialized services designed to allow them to live independently in their communities.

◀ Jun 2015		~ July 2015 ~				Aug 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 CAMP FOR THE BLIND 38th Summer CAMP Lions Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Notes:

◀ Jul 2015		~ August 2015 ~				Sep 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 18-I Cabinet Meeting GA.
2 International Friendship Day	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Leader Dog at Braves Game
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Council Meeting, Callaway Garden, GA
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Notes:				

◀ Aug 2015	~ September 2015 ~					Oct 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day 9/11	12
13	14	15	16	17 USA/	18 Canada Grand Rapids,	19 Forum Michigan
20	21 International Day of Peace	22	23 Fall Begins	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Notes:		

◀ Sep 2015	~ October 2015 ~					Nov 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 World Vegetarian Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween Sight Night – Collect Glasses

◀ Oct 2015		~ November 2015 ~				Dec 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7 Council Meeting joint with Camp and Lighthouse – Warner Robins
8	9	10	11 Veterans' Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Great American Smokeout	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	Notes:				

◀ Nov 2015		~ December 2015 ~				Jan 2016 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 World AIDS Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Human Rights Day	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Winter Solstice	23	24	25 Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	



REPORT OF GEORGIA LIONS CAMP FOR THE BLIND – LION SCOTT EISENHART:

Georgia Lions Camp End of Year Report 2014-2015

This past Lions year, the Camp handled challenges, prevented more challenges, and has moved toward becoming the professional organization that it can be. We have taken those challenges to rise up and meet or exceed them. I am very pleased with the results of the work that has been accomplished in getting us where we are today while knowing we have more to do.

The biggest challenge we faced, and are still facing, is the real, or in some cases perceived, loss of confidence by the Lions of Georgia regarding our ability to operate the Camp within the Lions Code of Ethics. Personally, that is troublesome, but the source of that loss is well understood. The numbers don't lie, donations have been down, clubs have withheld earmarked funds, and many have delayed support of the Camp. Individuals have not only limited their giving but some have actually requested that funds be returned to them as they felt the funds were not being used for the intended purpose. Some of our "standing grants" are in jeopardy. I honestly believe the solution to this is for the officers and directors to make a concerted effort to reach out to these clubs and provide "face time" to learn why they are withholding their support of the Camp! I responded to a club that had stated they would not support the Camp by attending one of their meetings – at their invitation, answered the hard questions including how we are working to improve financial management, and received a nice donation. This is the only way we will keep the Camp as one of the state initiatives and we have to give it our full support.

The next challenge is the poor turnout for the Camp work weekends. The first weekend we had a varied turnout club wise, with a total of twelve Lions present with our Camp Director, Lion Brian. The Moultrie, Thomaston, South Cobb, Covington, and Calvary clubs were represented with a total of 13 Lions. The second weekend, Lion Brian had a prior commitment (which worked well since I had one for the first weekend) and there were Lions from the Douglas, Jekyll, Milledgeville, and Savannah Port City clubs with a total of 17 Lions. These sound like great numbers except that not everyone was there both days, and we only had 2 board members each weekend. For a board with 14 members, that is dismal. On a positive note, I was pleased to be at the Leo weekend! They represented the Towns County, Seminole County and Moultrie Leo clubs, with 41 in attendance. The work that these future Lions provided our Camp was beyond description. I was also there for their board meeting where they presented the Camp \$1300 in combined donations from these three Leo clubs. Think about this: The Leos put in more time, with more people, and more money than many clubs. The Leos really worked hard that weekend. I heard one Leo say that they were surprised to see the President of the Camp at the work weekend, apparently that had not happened in the past. Be assured, as long as I'm the President and am able, I will be supporting our Leo's as they support us. They truly understand what it means to serve. My personal thanks for a job well done!

As most of us are aware, by now, we have us a new Executive Director, Brian Blackburn, and what a job he has done thus far! He has spoken to quite a few clubs, conventions, and other Lions meetings. Currently he is working toward a successful camping season by getting the appropriate staffing in place. Speaking of staffing, if anyone is aware of where we can find an RN that would be willing to spend some time at the Camp, please let either me or Brian know. We are running into some difficulty finding a nurse for Camp. We also still need some male counselors. Part of the shortage is due to the challenges brought on by the last couple of years. We are working on correcting those but we are still feeling the effects.

The committees have been working throughout the year and we have seen the fruits of their labors. Some have made needed changes that will or have been voted on. Others are continuing their work. One of the things that the committees need to look at is whether they would be better served to plan more frequent meetings. Many of our committees need more time than just 2 weekends a year. Diligence to the mission of the committee must be observed, and meetings and communications held often enough to accomplish the work of that committee. The work of the Camp is not a two weekend process and most of the committees need to devote more time than that as well. Again, there is still work to be done!

Finally, I am pleased with the work that has been done to get the Camp board working in a more efficient manner. This has been the direct result of legal counsel, PDG Tom Morton, who has been extremely diligent in working on various policies and procedures to make the operation of the board more streamlined. Tom has provided me with various policies to make my job a bit easier and has provided me with invaluable input, not only from a legal perspective, but also one as a friend! Thank you Tom for all you have done and continue to do for our Camp! I appreciate all of the work you've done thus far!

To close, I will ask that you follow the summer motto of the Camp and be "All In" so that we can continue to move forward.

In Lions Service, Scott Eisenhart



Georgia Lions Camp 2015 Silent Auction

Georgia Lions Camp / 2015 Silent Auction

A Successful 2015 GLC Silent Auction: Excitement was in the air as bidding continued until the last seconds as people were watching their favorite entries. Lions enjoyed friendly competition and socializing with friends from around the state as they placed their bids on the 72 entries. With bids and donations, we received \$4360.

The Italian Delights donated by the Roswell Lions received the most bids. The highest bid of \$400 was a bargain for 2 nights at Hotel Warm Springs, gift cards, admission to Little White House and items from Meriwether County donated by the Greenville Lions Club. We had different assortments of candies and cookies, set of golf clubs, basket of items from the Bark's estate, gardening baskets, vacuum cleaner, sets of Lions pins and you can even purchase individual Lions pins to mention a few. Yes, we had some awesome entries and there was something for everyone. Just ask DG Bonnie Kelly. She and her husband did their shopping and was the high bidder on 18 baskets.

Thank you, LEOs and Lions for your donations to the auction. The Clubs donating were Greenville, Lawrenceville, Milledgeville, Pooler, Columbus, Bartow County, Byron, Georgia Lions Camp, Marietta, Savannah Port City, Oconee, Thomson Camellia City, Dawsonville, East Cobb, Warner Robins, Hephzibah, South Cobb, Roswell, Woodstock, Conyers, Atlanta Metro, Calvary, Savannah, Centerville, Clayton, Norcross, Moultrie, LEOs of Colquitt County, Macon Cherry Blossom, Douglas, and Covington. The following Lions donated items: Johnny Barrentine, Walter Sealy, Alice Stagg, Carl Forrest, Gail Williams, Frank Lane, and Helen Troha.

A special thank you to Sylvia Masters, Alice Stagg, Helen Troha, Pam Williams and Pattie White for helping with the silent auction. The 2015 Georgia Lions Camp Silent Auction was successful, with the help of the LEOs and Lions.

Dimple Forrest
GLC Silent Auction Chair

Contributions for May (\$38,251) were down plus we are short on raffle ticket sales (\$10,000 under budget). Total Operating Expenses for the month were \$20,542 resulting in a positive Operating cash flow of **\$17,709** for the month. Year-to-Date the Camp net Cash Flow is positive **\$39,844**. We will need \$80,000 of new income in June and July to get through this camping season without having to borrow from the Investment Fund.

A summary of the Lions Clubs' Contributions are:

18-L: 32 of 52 (61%) Clubs for \$51,566
18-I: 46 of 59 (78%) Clubs for \$41,071
18-O: 44 of 57 (70%) Clubs for \$34,875
18-N: 50 of 64 (78%) Clubs for \$58,222
Total MD 18: 172 of 232 (71%) Clubs for \$185,734

Last year at this time the totals were:

Total MD 18: 169 of 242 (70%) Clubs for \$223,707.

If you wish to get more information – check with your District Camp Vice-President



Multiple District and District Centennial Coordinators,

This is the inaugural edition of the Centennial Celebration Coordinator News email, a bi-monthly communication designed to keep you informed about all things related to the centennial.

As we continue preparations and move forward on the implementation phase of our celebration, please be sure to refer to the Lions100.org web site for information on a regular basis. This site will be invaluable to you as both a source of information and inspiration.

Centennial Service Challenge

For nearly 100 years, Lions have served their communities with dedication and contributed to the development and well-being of millions of people around the world. As we look toward our centennial celebration, **Lions are encouraged to help reach the Centennial Service Challenge goal of serving 100 million people by June 2018 by planning projects through the following Centennial Service Challenge Campaigns:**

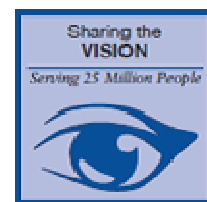


August – Engaging our Youth

Invite Leos and youth in your area to help organize and participate in a service project. Projects may include school or community facility cleanups or a visit to a home for senior citizens or a children's hospital. Allowing youth to develop and lead a service project enables them to learn skills while emphasizing the role of service.

October – Sharing the Vision

Plan vision health projects and work with the visually impaired. Many Lions already celebrate World Sight Day in October. This is a great month to organize a vision screening, volunteer at a nearby Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, organize an eyeglass collection or an activity to benefit the visually impaired in your community.



December/January – Relieving the Hunger

Organize food drives and projects to feed the hungry. With the downturn in the global economy, many hunger relief organizations are finding it difficult to keep up with demand. Help alleviate hunger by planning events around the end and beginning of the calendar year to collect and distribute food.

April – Protecting our Environment

Implement projects that improve and protect the environment. Organize a highway clean up, plant trees or plan a community "Earth Day" event to collect recyclables such as aluminum cans, plastic bottles, used cell phones and batteries.



To learn how your club can get involved with Centennial Service Challenge Campaigns and be part of the centennial celebration visit the [#LIONS100 website](http://LIONS100.org).



Hmmm = Does your Lions Club have this Highway Sign outside of your city limits? Show your PRIDE and let people know you do exist and alive and well.



**Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.**





2014—The Year in Review

Numbers reflect fiscal year 2013–2014

What an exciting year at Leader Dogs for the Blind as we celebrated our 75th Anniversary! But we didn't just spend the year reflecting on our past accomplishments; we made advances throughout 2014 and worked at setting Leader Dog up for the next 75 years.



Our Veterinary Department

- 406 dog spay/neuters
- 430 entry/training exams
- 44 specialized dental procedures
- 638 breeding/puppy exams
- 1,212 procedures done under anesthesia

Our Training and Client Services Departments

- Trained 186 guide dog teams (7 Deaf-Blind)
- Issued 157 GPS devices and trained clients how to use them



- Trained 73 accelerated orientation & mobility clients
- Hosted 21 teens for Summer Experience Camp
- Supported 264 clients in their homes with follow-up services

With Help From

- 352 on-campus volunteers who completed 31,360 hours of service
- 444 puppy raisers dedicated to our Future Leader Dogs
- 98 families hosting our male and female breeding stock dogs

First Deaf-Blind Warm Weather Training



During February, four Deaf-Blind clients completed guide dog training in Estero, Florida to aid the American Sign Language (ASL) and Tactile ASL communication process, which can be hampered by gloves and mittens.

75th Anniversary Open House

On May 3, we opened our doors to the public to showcase our 75-year history and to thank the local community for their many decades of support. Attendees toured our kennel, learned about the programs and services we offer our clients, and met LDB staff, clients and canines.

Completed Feasibility Study and Began Work on Canine Development Center

On August 4 we broke ground on the renovation that will update our kennel into a state-of-the-art Canine Development Center. The first phase includes demolition and rebuilding of our veterinary office, puppy development office, puppy area, breeding stock area and lobby. The next issue of Update will highlight the plans and progress on the new facility.



Grab a Leash and be Part of DogFest Walk 'n Roll

About Canine Companions

DogFest Walk 'n Roll is the signature national event of Canine Companions for Independence. Founded in 1975, Canine Companions for Independence® is a non-profit organization that provides highly-trained assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities, free of charge. Canine Companions is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its dogs, and the quality and longevity of the matches it makes between dogs and people. The result is a life full of increased independence and loving companionship. The most advanced technology capable of transforming the lives of people with disabilities has a cold nose and a warm heart!

We appreciate all of our DogFest participants and celebrate the uniqueness of everyone who is interested in helping. There are many ways to get involved and in 2015 the Southeast Region will be hosting six DogFest events. Find an event in your community and get involved!

You can...

Donate and Support an Existing Team or Individual Participant

With your help even more people can experience the life-changing effects of one of our dogs. Each person who helps DogFest can take pride in knowing that they are making it possible to provide highly trained assistance dogs free of charge.

Join the Planning Committee

Get more involved by joining the event planning committee. Committee members ensure everything is organized, from recruiting and motivating teams and sponsors, to planning ceremonies.

Volunteer

No matter how many hours you have available, we can always use your help. If you're interested in being a part of this exciting event, talk with your local event chair or contact the staff partner, Caryn Freas, in the Southeast Region office at cfreas@cci.org or by calling 407-522-3323.

DogFest Walk 'n Roll Atlanta Woodward Academy, 1661 Rugby Avenue College Park, GA Susan Gordon

DogFestAtlanta@cci.org
October 3



Save the date & grab a leash! Together we can change lives, one dog at a time!



Enter Dexter the Dyslexi an. . .



One of the newest additions to the Learning Ally student services family is our fun alien friend, **Dexter the Dyslexian**. Students write to Dexter to ask him questions, an interactive feature of our new bi-monthly newsletter; and Dexter also sends out helpful tips on self-advocacy to those who **opt in**.

Like many aspects of our student services line, Dexter was conceived through a bright idea from a creative dyslexic student. **Michael Pistilli**, the son of parent support specialist [Sally Pistilli](#), is one of our original [YES! Ambassadors](#). Michael is in college now, but when he was younger and was out rallying and educating other kids about dyslexia, he would often say things like “*Me and the other Dyslexians. . .*” or “*My fellow Dyslexians and I. . .*”

The rest of the Colorado YES! Program team started using the term *Dyslexians* as a way to celebrate all the things they have in common that make them different, special and empowered. The dyslexian concept is a way to create a sense of community for those who sometimes feel isolated.



Learning Ally's YES! Ambassadors even created a presentation called "Meet the Dyslexians," which delves into not only accepting, but embracing the differences that make us special. Dexter is the graphic representation for an idea that began with a spark from a student who now knows he is not alone.

You can check out all of the Learning Ally's student services on our new [Explore 1in5](#) website. We've expanded our range this year to include Dexter, student-to-student webinars, a family-friendly newsletter, and more.



A New Leash on Life

Recently graduated Jamie Dolan has returned home to St. Petersburg with his new yellow Labrador guide, Landin, where they've joined Ryan, his Vizsla from Southeastern Guide Dogs that retired about a year ago after eight wonderful years; a frisky little Chihuahua named Gizmo; and Jamie's wife and two teenagers.

Jamie knew all along that Landin would fit right in. He's "incredibly smart, very affectionate, and amazing," according to Jamie. Landin and Jamie are already like "two peas in a pod," and have the same strong-willed personalities.



Jamie lost his sight in an instant back in November 2004, when a gunman entered the Radio Shack store where he was a manager trainee and opened fire, killing two and severely wounding Jamie before taking his own life. With help from Ryan first and now Landin, having a guide dog means independence and mobility without his cane.

With Landin by his side, it will now be a changed world when Jamie begins studying IT security at St. Petersburg College in the fall, working towards his degree. And when the day comes to proudly receive his diploma, Landin will be right by his side. Jamie says he can sum up what Landin means to him in two words, "Freedom and independence... it's that simple." And it really is.



You're Rights, One Voice: Lance's Story

Posted on May 13, 2015 by [American Diabetes Association](#)



For the thousands of teenagers across the country who have diabetes, many are able to self-manage their diabetes care at school with no problems. Lance Paoli, of Maumelle, Arkansas, was one of those students. He had been successfully handling his own type 1 diabetes care at school for several years.

However, at the beginning of his sophomore year in high school, a new school principal started a policy that no longer allowed students to self-manage their medications or even carry their own medical supplies at school. All medicine had to be kept in the school nurse's office.

Lance's mother, Susan, knew that her son's health would suffer under this new policy.

Susan met with school leaders, but the principal would not change the policy. She filed a complaint with the Pulaski County School District and, around the same time, Lance was also suspended from school for testing his blood glucose level while in class.

So, Susan contacted the American Diabetes Association for help!

She spoke with one of the Association's Legal Advocates, who gave her information about the legal rights of students who have diabetes, and then she shared this information with the school principal.

Success!

The school principal reversed the new policy so students like Lance could once again self-manage their diabetes at school. The principal also dropped Lance's suspension.

"I am so grateful for all the help I received from the American Diabetes Association's legal advocate," said Susan. "Because of this, Lance can continue to be medically safe while at school. Thank you for helping to keep all children with diabetes safe at school!"

Prepare now for the upcoming school year.

The American Diabetes Association leads the effort to prevent and eliminate discrimination against people with diabetes at school, at work and in other parts of daily life. If you need help, call 1-800-DIABETES or visit <http://diabetes.org/gethelp>.

Don't Just Sit There!



A lot can happen in 90 minutes. You can watch three episodes of your favorite sitcom (we just found this show on Hulu called "Seinfeld," which seems pretty great). You could get caught up on the news of the day and your social media feeds, with plenty of time dedicated to designing your dream home via Pinterest. You could fit in a couple of quarters, innings or periods of your favorite sporting event. Or, you could get a decent amount of work done at the office—if you're into that sort of thing.

What do these activities have in common? **Sitting. A lot. It all adds up. And that's just not good for you.**

However you decide to spend your time, **you should make a habit of getting up every 90 minutes.** In fact, research shows that changing our sedentary habits is one of the most effective ways of preventing type 2 diabetes.

EVERY DAY CAN BE - May 6, this date marks the American Diabetes Association's inaugural National "Get Fit Don't Sit" Day. We want to get you up and moving, as prolonged sitting for hours and hours every day creates serious health risks.

And we're not just here to tell you, but also to show you how! Check out this short series of videos that demonstrate fun, easy ways to make your work day healthier, whether you're stuck at your desk or waiting for that document at the printer – check out the video at this web site - <http://diabetesstopshere.org/2015/05/06/dont-just-sit-there/>



"Share Peace"

Peace Poster Contest



Each year, Lions clubs around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest for kids encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace. For more than 25 years, millions of children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest.

The theme of the 2015-16 Peace Poster Contest is **"Share Peace."** Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.

Peace Poster Contest Judging

Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme. Posters advance through several judging levels: local, district, multiple district and international. At the international level, judges from the art, peace, youth, education and media communities select one grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners.

Peace Poster Contest Awards

International winners will be notified on or before February 1.

- One international grand prize winner will receive US\$5,000 and a trip to a special award ceremony.
- Each of the 23 merit award winners will receive a cash award of US\$500 and a certificate of achievement.

Peace Poster Contest Participant Information

To learn more about the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, please view our [brochure](#), [contest rules](#) and [deadlines](#), call 630-203-3812 or contact the [Lions Clubs Audio Visuals & Events Department](#).

Lions International Essay Contest



Lions clubs around the world are encouraged to sponsor students in the Lions International Essay Contest. This essay contest was created to offer an opportunity to visually impaired young people to express their feelings of peace. The theme of the 2015-16 Peace Poster Contest is **"Share Peace."** Students who are visually impaired and who are ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.

Work with your fellow Lions, local schools and area families to identify young people who are interested in participating and who could benefit from this program. One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000.

This is perfect timing to coincide with Children's Dignity Week



TICKET PRICE: OUTFIELD PAVILION - \$32 | PARKING - \$10

Send a local youth group to the Braves game by supporting your local Lions Club. Donations made toward ticket sales will help benefit someone to receive a Leader Dog. Lions support **Leader Dogs for the Blind**. Leader Dog's Mission is to "empower people who are blind or visually impaired with lifelong skills for independent travel."

#	TICKET(S)	SEATING/PARKING	COST	TOTAL	Name
		OUTFIELD PAVILION	x \$32		Address
		PARKING	x \$10		City State Zip
					Phone (Cell) (Work) Email
					Card Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
					Name on Card Card Number Exp Date
					Signature

The address listed will be the UPS mailing address used to ship the tickets (Cannot mail to a P.O. Box, please provide a physical mailing address)

☐ Check - Make checks payable to the ATLANTA BRAVES

PLEASE SUBMIT ORDER FORM TO: alex.ingle@braves.com or fax to 404.614.1582

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Children's Dignity Week

(August 30 – September 5)



Join Lions around the world for a special Lions **Worldwide Week of Service** dedicated to making the future brighter for our children. This international event is designed to benefit the most vulnerable members of our community, and to help us reach our Centennial Service Challenge goal of serving 100 million people

Host a project that benefits children in your community. From health, education, and development projects, to helping friends and neighbors meet their children's basic needs, there are countless ways to impact youth in your community and around the globe. No matter how you choose to serve, be sure to join us for this Centennial service event!

Join Us for Children's Dignity Week

Here's how your club can take part in this special event:

Plan your project - Host a service project that benefits children and youth during the week of August 30 - September 5. Download the Lions Children First Planning Guide for project ideas and planning tips.

Promote your project - Invite your community to serve with you to showcase your club and the power of service.

Report your project - Report your service on the MyLCI Service Activity Report to earn a Centennial Banner Patch and to get your club's name on the Centennial Ticker.

Celebrate Your Service

Share photos of your project on social media so everyone can see what a difference you're making in your community. Use the hashtag #Lions100, and we'll share your images on the LCI Facebook page!

Children's Dignity Week Resources

Lions Children First Planning Guide =
<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/iad252.pdf>

Children's Dignity Week Flyer =
<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/lions100/iad610.pdf>

25 Project Ideas to Serve Children =
<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/iad257.pdf>

Centennial Service Challenge Brochure =
<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/lions100/iad465.pdf>



Important Dates For Your 2015 Calendar

We're excited about all the events in store for 2015, which is just around the corner. Please mark your calendar for these important dates and events in the coming year:

- * *Duck Pluck, Atlanta, August 14th*
- * *State Masters Bowling Tournament, Warner Robins, August 21st-23rd*
- * *State Fall Games and the State Horse Show, October 9th-11th*

Duck Pluck August 14th



At the **Duck Pluck** on Aug. 14th, THOUSANDS of little yellow rubber ducks will be dumped into the Post Chastain pool for a nice swim. Adopt one of the ducks for \$5 or you can purchase a Quack Pack for \$30 and you'll have 7 ducks adopted in your name and will receive your very own junior souvenir rubber duck!

Adopt Your Duck.

If your adopted rubber duck is one of the first five plucked, you could win great prizes ranging from a \$500 VISA card to a Fitbit Flex -- Wireless Activity + Sleep Monitor. *You don't have to be present to win.* Check out more about the prizes by [clicking here.](#)

Every donation counts and you will make a difference. Even the **\$5 donation** will feed one athlete a meal at State Summer Games in May. Your **\$30 donation for a Quack Pack** will provide gold, silver and bronze medals for one competition at Summer Games.

Thank you to our sponsors Rooms To Go Children's Fund, Kids 'R' Kids Learning Academies, Allconnect, LAZ Parking, Whitaker Oil Company, Precision Aviation Group, Atlanta Arms, Highwoods Properties, Dobbins Thrift Shoppe, Craig Automotive, Dale Massey State Farm Insurance, and North Georgia Replacement Windows. Also, thank you to Post Apartment Homes and Star 94.

Shoot For Champions September 3rd

Last year, the first **Shoot for Champions** raised \$30,000 for State Games. Please join us September 3rd at Foxhall Resort. The day will include 15 stations of sporting clays, beautiful scenery, lunch, silent auction, and prizes. Please contact **Thomas Ritch** for more information.



2015 State Fall Games and Horse Show, October 9-11, Gainesville, GA

Come join us for the 2015 State Fall Games and Horse Show being held in Gainesville, GA October 9-11. Come visit our nearly 2,000 athletes competing in: Bocce, Cycling, Golf, Golf Skills, Softball, Softball Skills, Dressage, Horsemanship/Equitation, Showmanship, Unified Drill Team, and Western Riding. Please visit:
<https://specialolympicsga.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/2015FallGames/t/abid/673733/Default.aspx> and show your support for the State Fall Games and Horse Show.



LCI NEWS

Where in the World

Have you ever checked the Lions Web Site?

– click on Lions Newswire or check out

Lions News Network

International President

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada



2015-16 President's Theme: Dignity. Harmony. Humanity

International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada is encouraging Lions around the world to bring dignity to others through service. Visit the president's theme page to meet Dr. Yamada, download his presidential theme and find innovative tools to get your club performing at its highest level. Find out how you can help bring dignity and harmony to humanity today! –

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/presidents-theme.php>

Strengthen Your Commitment to Children - Host a Symposium!

Is your club involved with a dynamic children's project that other clubs in your district or multiple district could replicate? Would you like to expand local efforts to assist vulnerable children in the areas of literacy, health, hunger or education? Consider hosting a **Lions Services for Children Symposium!**

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/lsc10.pdf> The coordination of a day-long symposium allows Lions to exchange ideas, collaborate with community leaders, expand or develop new meaningful service and strengthen their commitment to serving disadvantaged children. Limited funding opportunities are available to help you with symposium expenses!

Applications for 2015-2016

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/lsc9.pdf> will be accepted starting July 1, 2015.

Is Your Club Ready for Children's Dignity Week?

	<p>SEND A CHILD TO THE UPCOMING BRAVES GAME....</p> <p>15 AUGUST</p>
--	--

This August 30–September 5, join International President Yamada and Lions around the world for a special Worldwide Week of Service event designed to bring dignity to our children. From health and education projects, to helping friends and neighbors meet their children's basic needs, there are countless ways to impact youth in your community and around the globe. To learn more about how your club can serve, visit the **Children's Dignity Week website** <http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/programs/centennial-service-challenge/worldwide-week-of-service.php> and start planning your service project today!

Be Part of the Centennial Celebration – Sponsor a New Member or Organize a Club!

Being a part of the Centennial Celebration is as simple as sponsoring a new member or helping to organize a new club! From now until June 2018, when you sponsor a new member or club you immediately receive special recognition. Centennial Sponsors and Centennial Club Organizers earn a limited edition pin and certificate, and are eligible for our progressive level awards. Sponsor a new member or help organize a club today and be a part of the Centennial Celebration! **Find more information on the Centennial Celebration Membership Awards.** <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/awards/centennial-membership-awards/index.php>

Thank You for Attending the 2015 Honolulu Convention!

Thank you for making the 98th International Convention a roaring success!

Convention highlights included the spectacular Parade of Nations featuring 10,000 Lions from around the world – many in native dress – who marched along with floats and marching bands. Attendees also heard a keynote speech from Tim Shriver, the chairman of Special Olympics. Visit the LCIcon YouTube channel to watch videos.

Convention delegates attended workshops, learned about important issues facing communities globally, elected international officers, voted on constitutional amendments and helped set the future direction of Lions Clubs International.

Make plans to join us in June 2016 for the 99th International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan!

LIONS QUARTERLY



Watch **LQ** and catch a glimpse of our association's service over 100 years.

HIGHLIGHTS

Digital LION Magazine

The LION Magazine (Headquarters Edition) is available online with added content, videos and links.

Lions Blog

Stay up-to-date on Lions programs and stories from around the world.

CONTESTS

2015-2016 Peace Poster Kits

Purchase a kit for this year's theme, "Share Peace."

EVENTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club can participate in locally.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE





Dear Lions,

I have recently spent some time reflecting on this past year. As Chairperson of your [Lions Clubs International Foundation](#) (LCIF), I have had the privilege of traveling the world, meeting Lions and witnessing the projects to which you devote your hearts.



It has been a great honor to serve as your Chairperson. I am so proud of everything we have accomplished, and I know that with your continued support, our Foundation will continue making the world a better place for years to come.

Without your kindness and generosity, there would be more children at risk for drug use; fewer children would have access to life-saving vaccines; the fear of blinding disease would be a reality for more people; and there would be less support for people in need following disasters.

Whether in small, rural villages or in our global community, you are changing lives every day. I would like to share with you just a few of the incredible accomplishments from the past year, below. Thank you for your [dedication](#) to our Foundation.

Sincerely,

*Lion Barry J. Palmer
Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation*

Combating Measles



A big part of our successful fight against measles is something called social mobilization. Lions knock on doors, sponsor radio and television advertisements, take out newspaper ads and take to the streets to reach the families of young children. Lions are making sure that parents and entire

communities understand the dangers of measles and the importance of vaccination. This puts Lions on the frontlines in the fight against measles.

Providing Disaster Relief

Lions have generously donated over US\$2 million to the LCIF



disaster fund following the earthquake in Nepal. Local Lions are still hard at work meeting critical needs and rebuilding. They have organized countless blood donation drives, distributed food, blankets and clean water to victims, and continue to put aside their own needs to

assist their neighbors. The Lions of Nepal are providing hope in the wake of disaster.

An Exciting Day for LCIF and Special Olympics



Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is proud to partner with Special Olympics. The partnership began in 2001 and was meant to provide vision screenings to athletes at Special Olympics sporting events. Since then, the partnership have evolved and expanded.

Recently, Past International President and Past LCIF Chairperson Clem Kusiak represented LCIF at the Special Olympics Unified Relay Across America in Washington, D.C. This relay brings the Special Olympics Flame of Hope to each of the 48 continental United States. The three legs of the relay will meet in Los Angeles to kick off the Special Olympics World Games on July 25.

PIP Kusiak noted that passing the torch was symbolic of “giving support on behalf of **6,000 Lions clubs and more than 1.4 million members** in 207 countries.”



The newest piece of this exciting partnership is Mission: Inclusion, which brings unified sports to Leos and Special Olympics athletes around the world.

The newest piece of this exciting partnership is Mission: Inclusion, which brings unified sports to Leos and Special Olympics athletes around the world. Mission: Inclusion is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.



From left to right: Special Olympics athlete Corey Leonard; PIP Clem Kusiak; Michael Hoar, Vice President, Corporate Partnerships, Special Olympics

Our Special Olympics partnership provides free vision screenings at select Special Olympics sporting events worldwide, but that's just the beginning. Athletes also receive diagnoses for vision-related problems, corrective and protective eyewear, and are taught how to take better care of their eyes.

A successful collaborative effort, the Special Olympics-Lions Clubs International Opening Eyes program relies on thousands of volunteer Lions, doctors, vision specialists and educators. More than 350,000 athletes have been screened, with prescription eyewear provided to 110,000 athletes. More than 20,000 volunteer eye care professionals

have participated in the program. More than 20,000 Lions volunteers worldwide have offered their time and talents for this true team effort that has been active in more than 70 nations.

Empowering Students

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) is the USA's leading organization advancing the development of academic, social and emotional competence for all students. CASEL has released its [2015 CASEL Guide: Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs—Middle and High School Edition](#), which rates well-designed, evidence-based social and emotional learning programs used in middle and high schools. Lions Quest: Skills for Adolescence is one of nine programs that **received top honors**, earning a spot on the Guide's "SElect" list, meaning they had positive effects, such as improved academics and reduced problem behavior.



Lions Quest Takes Top Honors in New CASEL Guide



Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process of acquiring the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to understand and manage emotions, achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy, maintain healthy relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Lions Quest is Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) comprehensive youth development program for teaching SEL, character education, bullying prevention, drug awareness, and service-learning.

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) is the nation's leading organization advancing the development of academic, social and emotional competence for all students. CASEL helps make evidence-based SEL an integral part of education from preschool through high school. Through research, practice and policy, CASEL collaborates to ensure all students become knowledgeable, responsible, caring and contributing members of society.

CASEL has just released its 2015 CASEL Guide: Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs—Middle and High School Edition, which rates well-designed, evidence-based social and emotional learning programs used in middle and high schools. Lions Quest: Skills for Adolescence is one of only nine programs of the 380 reviewed that received top honors, earning a spot on the Guide's

"SElect" list, meaning they had demonstrated positive effects, such as improved academics and reduced problem behavior.

Lions Quest features three developmentally appropriate program levels—Skills for Growing (grades K-5), Skills for Adolescence (grades 6-8), and Skills for Action (grades 9-12)—that promote a caring, safe, well-managed, and participatory learning environment and allows students to develop 21st century life skills.

For information on how your club can help launch Lions Quest in your area, send an email to lionsquest@lionsclubs.org.

Saving Sight

SightFirst focuses on two neglected tropical diseases, onchocerciasis and trachoma, and continues to make significant advances. The World Health Organization (WHO) verified the elimination of river blindness from Colombia in 2013 and from Ecuador in 2014. Now, the Chinese government has announced the elimination of blinding trachoma from China. As recently as 1999, over 350 million people were thought to be at risk of contracting this disease in China, but it is no longer a public health threat in that country. This goes to show what can be accomplished when governments, volunteers and NGOs commit to eliminating a preventable disease. With help from the Lions of Hong Kong/Macau and China, this announcement **marks a milestone** on the road toward official verification of elimination of yet another blinding disease.



Did you get yours this past year? If not – why not?

39th ANNUAL USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM**Grand Rapid, Michigan****Opening Banquet - Thursday, September 17, 2015 @ 5:30 PM****Closing Banquet - Saturday, September 19, 2015 @ 6:00 PM****Registrant A**

<input type="text"/>	SUB-DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> LION	<input type="checkbox"/> LIONESS	<input type="checkbox"/> LEO	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER
Name _____					
Last		First	Initial	Nickname (Titles will not be included)	
Mailing Address _____					
Street Number/PO Box		City	State/Prov	Zip/PC	
Phone ()		()	E-Mail		
Residence		Mobile	Please print clearly		
Proceedings Book: Proceedings books will be offered at the Forum for a small cost. Files can be downloaded from our website following the Forum at no cost.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Print Copy(\$15) OR <input type="checkbox"/> Flash Drive (\$10) OR <input type="checkbox"/> None					
<input type="checkbox"/> This is my First Time Attending a Forum I was invited to the Forum by _____					
(name of mentor must be listed to receive credit for your attendance)					
Years in Lionism		Forums attended	Highest Office Held	<input type="checkbox"/> Past	<input type="checkbox"/> Present
Please check all that apply					
Special Meals: <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetic <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu Vegetarian _____					
(Please specify needs and include any allergies. It may not be possible to accommodate all special meal requests)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Challenged <input type="checkbox"/> Visually Challenged <input type="checkbox"/> Physically Challenged Specific needs _____					
(Please let us know how we can help with your specific challenge, i.e.: hearing device, Braille, signer, wheelchair access...?)					
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a Pin Trader <input type="checkbox"/> I will need a table for pin trading _____ Number of tables needed _____					
(Pin trading tables will be made available at \$15 each)					

Registrant B

<input type="text"/>	SUB-DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> LION	<input type="checkbox"/> LIONESS	<input type="checkbox"/> LEO	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER
Name _____					
Last		First	Initial	Nickname (Titles will not be included)	
Mailing Address _____					
Street Number/PO Box		City	State/Prov	Zip/PC	
Phone ()		()	E-Mail		
Residence		Mobile	Please print clearly		
Proceedings Book: Proceedings books will be offered at the Forum for a small cost. Files can be downloaded from our website following the Forum at no cost.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Print Copy(\$15) OR <input type="checkbox"/> Flash Drive (\$10) OR <input type="checkbox"/> None					
<input type="checkbox"/> This is my First Time Attending a Forum I was invited to the Forum by _____					
(name of mentor must be listed to receive credit for your attendance)					
Years in Lionism		Forums attended	Highest Office Held	<input type="checkbox"/> Past	<input type="checkbox"/> Present
Please check all that apply					
Special Meals: <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetic <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu Vegetarian _____					
(Please specify needs and include any allergies. It may not be possible to accommodate all special meal requests)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Challenged <input type="checkbox"/> Visually Challenged <input type="checkbox"/> Physically Challenged Specific needs _____					
(Please let us know how we can help with your specific challenge, i.e.: hearing device, Braille, signer, wheelchair access...?)					
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a Pin Trader <input type="checkbox"/> I will need a table for pin trading _____ Number of tables needed _____					
(Pin trading tables will be made available at \$15 each)					

HOUSING

Hotels: Reservations must be made with this form. **Do not register directly with the hotel.** Please Indicate 3 choices in order of preference. **Rooms cannot be reserved without \$125 US deposit.**

	HOTELS	RATE	DISTANCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amway Grand (Headquarters)	\$139	Adjacent*
<input type="checkbox"/>	FW Marriott	\$159	3 blocks*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Courtyard by Marriott	\$139	4 blocks*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Holiday Inn	\$139	1/2 mile
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riverfront Hotel	\$ 95	3 miles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Country Inn & Suites	\$114	4.5 miles

***NO SHUTTLE WILL BE PROVIDED TO THESE HOTELS**

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you must cancel your registration and/or room, notification must be in writing to the Forum Registrar. Any cancellations received between July 1, 2015 and August 1, 2015 will be subject to a \$50 per person cancellation fee and forfeiture of the Hotel Deposit. **After August 1, 2015 no refunds will be issued.** Cancellation notification must be received on or before August 1, 2015. Please send cancellation notice to: USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, PO Box 296, Black Hawk, SD 57718-0296. Phone (605) 723-4007; FAX (605) 791-0950; E-Mail: forum@spe.midco.net

THESE ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE ROOM RESERVATIONS CAN BE FINALIZED!!

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

in Room _____ # of Beds _____

Sharing Room with _____

Special Room Requests: ☐ Non-smoking
Room requests will be made on a first come-first served basis

Other _____

HELP US BETTER PLAN FOR YOUR ARRIVAL

I will be arriving by:

☐ Air ☐ RV ☐ Undecided

☐ Car ☐ Other _____

Registration Fees (US \$)

	Early Bird	Postmarked after May 31	Postmarked after July 20
Reg A	\$277	\$288	\$310
Reg B	\$277	\$288	\$310
Leos	\$140	\$150	\$165
Hotel Dep	\$125	\$125	\$125
Proceedings Book - Print	\$ 15		
Proceedings Book - Data	\$ 10		
Pin Trading Table	\$15		

Rooms cannot be reserved without \$125 US Deposit

REGISTRATION FEE covers the cost of the seminars and four designated meals (Thursday evening banquet, Friday noon lunch, Saturday noon lunch, Saturday evening banquet). All attendees must pay full registration fee to participate in any of the meals or seminars. **Individual meal function tickets will NOT be available.**

Hotel rooms CANNOT be assigned until registration fee and hotel deposit are received. **ALL REGISTRATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE MADE ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS.**

PAYMENT**By Credit Card:**

I authorize \$ _____ to be charged to my credit card.

card number _____

exp date _____

security code (3 digits on back) _____

(MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express, Diners Club, or JCB)

Signature _____

I have included check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____

Please direct any questions to the Forum office: USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, PO Box 296, Black Hawk, SD 57718-0296; Phone (605)723-4007; Fax (605)791-0950; Email: registrar@lionsforum.org
Visit our website at: <http://usacanadalionsforum.org>



MD18 LIONS CHARTER BUS TRIP! USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM

September 17-19, 2015 * Grand Rapids, Michigan
Only 50 seats available! Sign Up Now!



For those who will be attending this years USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM the Lions of Georgia is offering a FUN and cost effective way of travel to Grand Rapids, Michigan! Join us for a relaxing Charter Bus trip and enjoy the fellowship of other Georgia Lions! Your Charter Bus will leave Wednesday morning September 16th at 7:00 AM at a location in North Metro Atlanta. Travel time is approximately 15 hours. The scheduled return date is Sunday September 20th, leaving Grand Rapids, Michigan at 7:00 AM and returning to Georgia late that night.



Please note: This is for round trip travel to the 2015 USA/CANADA LIONS FORUM Only.

Please register for the Forum and your Hotel separately at:

<http://lionsforum.org/>

Charter Bus Service Provided By:
His Majesty Coach (770) 426-6282
<http://www.hismajestycoach.com/charter-bus-atlanta/>

- *Cost: \$150 per person
- *Reservation Contact: Lion Fred Carlson
Email: benchmarkcontrol@gmail.com
Cell: 404.428.7227
- *Contact Lion Fred Carlson regarding payment by a Credit Card. (A small fee might be required if paying through PayPal.)



Reserve your seat now! Seats are limited!
Mail the following information with your payment to: Lion Fred Carlson
151 McKaskey Creek Rd SE, Cartersville, Georgia 30121

Name:

Address:

Cell Phone:

Lions Club:

***Round Trip Charter Bus Fee: \$150 per person.**

Payment by check () #

Payment by PayPal ()

Amount Paid:

*This is for travel only. To register for the Forum visit their website at: <http://lionsforum.org/>

DGE of 18-N, Larry Varnadoe suffered a mild stroke last Saturday at the State Convention. The Lions of Georgia were FAST to respond to the situation to take care of and serve one of our own.

When you think someone is having a problem you should immediately do the F.A.S.T Test. Remember timing is very critical; an hour can make a big difference in the recovery process.

F.A.S.T. – Signs of Stroke Should Prompt FAST Action

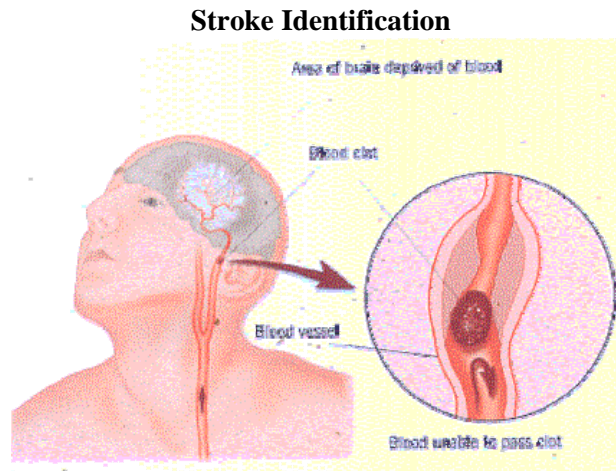
The American Stroke Association developed this easy-to-remember guide to help identify the signs of a stroke.

F – Face drooping. Is one side of the person's face drooping or numb? When he or she smiles, is the smile uneven?

A – Arm weakness. Is the person experiencing weakness or numbness in one arm? Have the person raise both arms. Does one of the arms drift downward?

S – Speech difficulty. Is the person's speech suddenly slurred or hard to understand? Is he or she unable to speak? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Can he or she repeat it back?

T – Time to call 9-1-1. If any of these symptoms are present, dial 9-1-1 immediately. Check the time so you can report when the symptoms began.



STROKE: Remember The 1st Three Letters...

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics) and just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes. They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food - while she appeared a bit shaken up, Ingrid went about enjoying herself the rest of the afternoon. Ingrid's husband called later saying that his wife had been taken to the hospital and passed away. She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Ingrid would be with us today. Some stroke victims don't die, they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

RECOGNIZING A STROKE:

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke . . . totally. He said the trick was having a stroke recognized, diagnosed and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- S** *Ask the individual to SMILE.
- T** *Ask the person to TALK, to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE.
(Coherently) (i.e. . . It is sunny out today)
- R** *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out their tongue . . . if the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other that is also an indication of a stroke.

If he or she has trouble with any one of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

LIONS OF GEORGIA

2016 MD 18 CONVENTION

Callaway, Gardens

June 3-5, 2016

EVENT REGISTRATION / Hospitality Book Registration

NAME (check boxes that apply) Each person receiving a hospitality book must be listed - PLEASE PRINT	Number of Hospitality Books	MJF Luncheon tickets	Lion Highest Office	Meetings only	Guest (check)	(Select One) Chicken Pork Vegetarian

Club:		District:	
Address:		City, State, Zip:	
Email Address:			

\$50.00 Registration Convention non meal meetings only.

\$95.00 at 2015 Convention

\$110.00 May 18, 2015 to Sept. 30, 2015 **\$125.00** Oct 1, 2015 to Jan 31, 2016

\$140.00 Feb 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016 **\$150** May 1, 2016 to Convention.

Convention only/OR Hospitality Books	#	@	each	Total Amt.:	\$
MJF Luncheon	#	@	\$30.00 each	Total Amt.:	\$
Make Checks Payable To: Lions of Georgia MD Convention			Total Amount Due:	\$	
Check #/Cash:		Date Paid:		Amount Paid:	\$

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Callaway Gardens
17800 U. S. Highway 27
Pine Mountain, GA 31822
706-663-2281 - 800-543-7121
Make Reservations Directly with Hotel

Room rate is \$121.00/ night plus tax
Tell them you are with the Lions Convention!

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECKS TO:

Lion David McDonald
1624 Hannahs Mill Road
Thomaston, Georgia 30286

H: 706-648-3950
Email:
dmcdonald@charter.net

There is a lot to see and do



Georgia Lions Magazine

1441 Burycove Circle, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

<http://galions.org/md18.html>

